NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

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# Italy Defends Its Eligibility tor Euro

PUBLISHED W'

Ciampi Rejects Fears That It Won't Be Able to Keep Up Its Recovery

By Barry James

Herald Tribune

PARIS — Days after the Bundesbank questioned Italy's high level of public debt, the Italian finance minister. Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, defended his government's ability Tuesday to join the planned European single currency and to sustain the dramatic economic improvement it has achieved in the past couple of years.

Referring indirectly to the Com-

ferring indirectly to the German ism, Mr. Ciampi said: There are tose who fear that the excellent results btained in terms of low deficits and

Public debt in Italy and Belgium is more than double the 60 percent of gross domestic product that the Maastricht treaty on European Union set as a target for countries adopting the single currency, the curo.

At a conference organized by the Association for the Monetary Union of Europe, Mr. Ciampi acknowledged that his country's accumulated debt was "a heavy burden that weighs on us and will

low inflation are the result of intensive effort but not sustainable. But our severest judges—the markets—do not share these fears."

Nevertheless, he said the debt was coming down as Italy trimmed deficit spending and sold off state-owned industries. He reaffirmed the government's intention to reduce the debt to less than 100 percent of GDP within six years.

Another speaker, a former British chancellor of the Exchequer, Kenneth Clarke, said that based on present performance, Italy would never achieve the 60 percent debt-to-GDP ratio. Italy is budgeting a 2.5 percent deficit in 1998, whereas Mr. Clarke said it needed to produce an annual surplus of 3.1 percent

See EMU, Page 6

# A Wary Bundesbank Puts in a Subtext

In Veiled Terms, Bank Suggests Europe Is Unprepared for Single Currency

By John Vinocur ional Herald Tribune

PARIS — The long-term message from the German central bank's report on the future of Europe's planned Economic and Monetary Union seems much darker than its statement last week that introducing a single European currency next year 'appears justifiable

As with scripture that seems to beg for interpretation, no single sentence predicts deep and specific trouble for the undertaking; yet, as an ensemble, the report reads almost ominously.

Standing back from what it stresses is a start-up decision by politicians rather than economists, the Bundesbank says that most of the 11 countries that will form the EMU are inadequately prepared to live up to the stability criteria that are to regulate their economic performance beyond the introduction of the single currency, the euro.

The member countries, although making progress against inflation, have not been able to create a uniform "culture of stability," the Bundesbank says, and it insists that in

some cases, countries' success in reducing deficits has more to do with one-time measures than sustainable policy de-

Adding in the worries it expresses about the inadequacy of social-security reform and its admonitions that new prosperity cannot come to Europe without rapid and widespread changes such as more flexible labor markets, the Bundesbank seems to have wanted to put down a historical marker identifying its deep skepticism on the introduction of the single currency.

ANALYSIS The Bundesbank -- as the emblem of the restrictive policies that provided the basis of the Maastricht Treaty and now govern the so-called Stability and Growth Pact that will guide Europe's reconomies beyond 1999 clearly has used its report to express more concern about the euro than conviction.

Nowhere in the prport, issued Friday, were there positive judgments stated with force equal to these critical obser-

See EUROPE, Page 6



Wildcats Rally to Win NCAA Crown

Ryan Hogan of Kentucky catching a teammate, Wayne Turner, after the Wildcats came back from a 10-point deficit in San Antonio, Texas, to defeat the Utah Utes, 78-69, and win the U.S. collegiate basketball championship. Page 19.

# For Some Israelis, a TV History of the Nation Airs Wrong Voices

By Marjorie Miller Los Angeles Times Service

JERUSALEM — History is written by the victors, it is often said, but in Israel even the winners do not agree on how to portray their past.
State-run Israel Television is airing a

22-part documentary series for the 50th anniversary of the state that has enraged many Israelis and apparently enlightened others by telling the story of their counprished as well as the victors.

be with the country's heroes, tice for the first time on marginalized im-, who lost their! Israelis, and terrorism to

... Livnat ... produce films

Mrs. Livnat, who has called for the series to be canceled, was so furious about the Sunday night shows that she announced she had stopped allowing

that we are imperialists, colonialists and

emalize the views of the Arabs,

her son to watch them. Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon,

a key figure for most of Israel's 50 years, wrote a letter to Education Minister Yitzhak Levy complaining that the series "distorts the history of our redemption, alcandoning every moral basis for the establishment and existence of the state of Israel" and urging him not to use the programs in Israeli schools.

And the host of the series, Yehoram Gaon, quit halfway through rather than appear on a segment that presents the views of Palestinians who carried out

"I felt good with the first episodes which discussed the past and reminded me of my childhood," Mr. Gaon wrote in his resignation letter, "but I find it hard to forget my feelings when presenting the episodes dealing with the present."
Supporters of the series say its virtue

is precisely that: It does not make Israelis feel good with the official line but raises painful questions and provokes debate. "There is no objective history," said Yoel Rappel, a historian and radio commentator. "The series is a trigger so that

gung people will go to the books and wies to learn about Israeli history. hether or not you agree with the questions, they are raising the right questions. The only way to find a solution between Israelis and Arabs on the

land is to raise the right questions. That is the first step on a long journey."

The public controversy over "Tekuma" (Rebirth), as the series is called, mirrors a debate that has been going on in Israeli academic journals for more than a decade. At issue is the story

See ISRAEL, Page 6



WEST BANK CLASHES — A Palestinian demonstrator being carried away Tuesday after being shot in the village of Salfit. Israeli soldiers wounded two Palestinians after 1,500 protesters tried to march onto a disputed plot of land. In the U.S., Madeleine Albright said she saw "progress" in the peace process. Page 6.

## Judgment Near for Papon, 'Emblem' of Vichy Rule

By Charles Trueheart Washington Post Service

BORDEAUX - His day of reckoning at hand, Maurice Papon reached the end of his six-month trial for war crimes much as he had begun it: an old man in the dock who stood for

something else. In closing arguments due to end Wednesday, Mr. Papon's defense attorney called the proceedings "the last purge trial" of World War II. For one of his accusers, Mr. Papon remained "the symbol of the government bureaucrat" who rubber-stamped hundreds of Jews, his fellow-citizens, to their doom under the Germans. He was the "emblem of Vichy" -France's compliant wartime government.

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France	"1100 CFA Senegal	], 100 O//.
italy	1.100 CFA Senegal	1.250 Din
Jordan	.1.250 CFA Tunisia	Eur.)\$1.20

Whatever the trial and the defendant have grown to symbolize after all the testimony here, the multiple charges of crimes against humanity that Mr. Papon denies will go to a panel of jurors and judges Wednesday or Thursday for an immediate verdict. An acquittal is considered possible.

"Memory, truth and justice are not incompatible," said Jean-Marc Varaut, Mr. Papon's lead defense attorney, in closing arguments in which he told the jury it was possible to "convict Vichy" and still acquit his client.

The 87-year-old Mr. Papon is accused of signing orders, in his role as a deputy prefect in the Bordeaux region during World War II, leading to the arrest and deportation of 1,560 French Jews. Almost all of them eventually died at the Nazis' Auschwitz death camp in Poland.

The chief prosecutor, Marc Robert, called Mr. Papon a "professional opportunist," representative of a generation of French bureaucrats — "brilliant, efficient, without qualms, for whom the duty to obey served as a code

of moral conduct. "Papon wanted a career, at any price,

and quickly. The defendant, who is in poor health and last week lost his wife of 66 years, has attended most of the nearly 100 daily sessions of the trial, sitting somberly behind a protective plastic

See PAPON, Page 5

## AGENDA

## U.S. Assails Japan And EU on Trade

WASHINGTON (AP) - Japan and the European Union were singled out by the Clinton administration Tuesday for the largest amount of criticism among trading partners accused of erecting unfair barriers to U.S. exports.

The criticism came in an annual government trade report that was made public Tuesday.

1 1	The Dollar	
New York	Tuesday @ 3 P.M.	previous dose
DM	1.848	1,8482
Pound	1.6715	1.678
Yen	133.13	132.065
FF	6.1905	6.1912
As.	The Dow	
4	Tuesday close	previous close
+70.75	8852.87	8782.12
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+13,62	1106.10	1092.48
Books		Page 9.
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Sports	J	Pages 18-19.

## Yeltsin's Pick Is Epitome Of the Hustle Generation

By David Hoffman ushington Post Service

MOSCOW - The latest prime minister of post-Soviet Russia, Viktor Chernomyrdin, was straight out of the old school, the clite of the Soviet Union, the nomenklatura. The first prime minister, Yegor Gaidar, was a radical reformer, an economist and theorist.

But the man President Boris Yeltsin has nominated to be the next prime minister is the epitome of a generation that stood at the cutting edge of Russia's quest to become a market economy -

and did something about it. Sergei Kiriyenko, 35, chosen last week to head the fractious, weakened Russian government, has been in Moscow less than a year, first as deputy minister of fuel and energy, then as minister. His nomination is already under fire from critics who say he lacks experience to be second-in-command of troubled Russia.

Mr. Kiriyenko's career path, from shipyard engineer to banker and oilman, is emblematic of that taken by a wave of young, politically savvy, ambitious Russian capitalists who now run the country's banks and conglomerates.

They were young enough to seize the opportunities that arose in the Soviet system under Mikhail Gorbachev, exploiting the colossal gaps opening between the controlled, Soviet-era economy and the new, free one.

This technique, known as arbitrage, played on the weakness of the state and the hustle of the young generation. Most of the bankers and industrialists who now form what is called the Russian oligarchy got their start this way. Long before they were grabbing the state's most lucrative mines, factories and property, they were feverishly working as middlemen dealing in oil, coal, steel, automobiles and anything else that could be bought low and sold high. They knew how to find a ton of cheap oil, for example, and sell it abroad for breathtaking profits.

Alfred Volkov, a professor at the Academy of National Economy here who supervised Mr. Kiriyenko during a two-year management course, described those times. "There was a big difference between domestic and world prices, especially in energy," he said. Any sale in the world market brought a lot of profits — and in 1992 it was crazy profits, absolutely crazy."

Mr. Kiriyenko originally intended to be a ship engineer. He had a diploma from the Gorky Institute of Water Transport Engineering in the Volga River city that is now called Nizhni Novgorod.

But in 1991, Mr. Kiriyenko won admission to the Academy of National Economy, under the leadership of Abel Aganbegyan, an influential adviser

See HUSTLE, Page 5

## **Athens Gets Assurance** From Yeltsin the that the that the that the that the that the that the third the that the third On Missiles

## Weapons for Cyprus Raise Prospect of More Russian Arms Sales

MOSCOW - President Boris Yeltsin, eyeing future arms sales to Greece, reassured Athens on Tuesday that Moscow would not back down over a controversial deal to deliver missiles

to Cyprus.
The Russian president met Defense Minister Apostolos-Athanasois Tsohatzopoulos of Greece in a departure from protocol described by the Kremlin as underlining the "special prospects for Russian-Greek military and technical cooperation," the Interfax press agency said.

Interfax quoted Sergei Yastrzhembsky, a Kremlin spokesman, as saying Mr. Yeltsin had assured Mr. Tsohatzopoulos of "Moscow's determination to fulfill the contract to provide Cyprus with the S-300 anti-missile defense sys-

tem on time.' Turkey said last week that the deployment of the surface-to-air missiles on the divided island, expected in September

or October, could lead to fighting.

Turkey has about 30,000 troops on Cyprus, which has been split since Turkish forces invaded the north of the island in 1974 after a brief Greek-Cypriot coup engineered by Greece. The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is recognized only by Ankara.

The Greek Cypriot covernment

The Greek-Cypriot government, which is recognized internationally, has about 10,000 guards on the island.
Tensions flared Jan. 4 when the

Greek-Cypriot government announced that it had signed a deal with Russia to buy long-range ground-to-air missiles. Since then, Turkey has threatened

military action against the Greek-ruled part of Cyprus to stop it from deploying the missiles. Turkey also has threatened to set up air and naval bases in the northern part of Cyprus that it occupies, if Greece continues to set up military bases in the southern part of the island.

Mr. Tsohatzopoulos, meanwhile, thanked Moscow for backing the Greek-Cypriot government during his meeting with Mr. Yeltsin, which focused on geopolitics, in particular the crises in Serbia's Kosovo Province and Iraq, Interfax quoted Mr. Yastrzembsky as saying. The Itar-Tass press agency had said

See CYPRUS, Page 6

# U.S. Disputes Tokyo's Claim On Tainted Seed Imports

By Mary Jordan
Washington Post Service

TOKYO - The Japanese government has linked a mysterious food poisoning outbreak last year to radish sprout seeds grown in the United States, an allegation that U.S. officials say is reckless and damaging to American

Japanese health officials announced to the Japanese public Monday that their genetic testing showed that seeds from Oregon were contaminated with the po-tentially deadly strain of bacteria known as E. coli 0157:H7.

Japanese officials say they believe the white radish seeds, used to produce sprouts, were responsible for making as many as 120 people sick in March

Hideshi Michino, a Health and Welfare Ministry official, said that "our aim is not to finger a culprit, but to protect people by letting them know we have found that seeds from Oregon were con-

In 1996, the same bacteria was blamed for killing at least three people and poisoning nearly 8,000 in an alarming outbreak that shut schools and swimming pools. The cause of that epidemic has never

been determined, and Japanese officials say they have no proof that American seeds were to blame for the larger outbreak. But Japanese officials have said that they believe radish sprouts may have caused the 1996 epidemic as

Angry U.S. agriculture officials called the charge against U.S. products reckless. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration said the Japanese scientific findings were inconclusive at best. Officials at the U.S. Embassy in

Tokyo were in turns outraged and amused that one of the worst outbreaks of food poisoning in Japanese history had been blamed on foreign food, and

See POISON, Page 6

# Driving Vice Underground

Wherever there are men

there are women. There is

doesn't have this. The only

question is, is it legal or

illegal?

no country in the world that

By Edward A. Gargan New York Times Service

AIPEI — Six hard chairs sat empty against the custard yellow wall, next to a curtain of red velveteen that hung more like a shroud than an invitation. "Men," whispered a rouged Kuan Hsiu-chin,

pointing a lacquered crimson fingernail toward the doorsill, "cannot cross there."

Buds of Grace Tower is closed - closed by mayoral fiat, closed by political expediency, closed in a frenzy of public moralizing.

Buds of Grace was one of Taipei's 18 legal brothels, brothels that employed, along with Ms. Kuan, 143 other licensed prostitutes until Taipei's crusading mayor. Chen Shui-bian, ordered them shut last year.

"America doesn't have licensed prostitutes, Japan doesn't have licensed prosti-tutes," observed Mr. Chen, who swept the long-ruling Kuomintang, or Nationalist Party, from power in Taipei in 1994 and who is now regarded as a potential contender for the country's presidency in 2000.

Taiwan is a member of international society and it must take the same steps as the majority, which don't have licensed prosti-tution," he said. "We must move forward with the current of the times."

But for Ms. Kuan, and the other licensed prostitutes of Taipei, the mayor's decision to close their brothels smacked of little more than opportunism born of political image-making. Angered by the mayor's decision, she and her colleagues have rallied in defiance, besieging City Hall and city councilors, demanding that they be allowed to return to work, the only work they say they know.

Hugged on one side by a gold merchant and the other by a red-columned Buddhist temple, Ms. Kuan's brothel was visited last September by the police, who removed the plastic sign over the door and smashed it.

From that moment, no customers were allowed to cross the portal and take one of the women who sat on the straight-backed chairs to one of four Spartan cubicles past the red velveteen curtain. 'Chen Shui-bian wants to make this a city for

rich people," said Ms. Kuan. "He wants to chase people at the bottom like me out." Ms. Kuan, 48, said she had worked at Buds of

Grace for eight years.

Although she hesitated to talk about the circumstances that led her to prostitution, she said that she had three children to support and that this was

the only work she could do. "For thousands of years this has existed," she

NEW YORK - Former Represen-

tative Bella Abzug, 77, the raspy-voiced, hat-wearing feminist who

fought for civil rights and against the

byterian Medical Center in New York,

according to Harold Holzer, her spokes-

man. She had been hospitalized for

In the 21st century, "Women will

"This woman's

change the nature of power, rather than power changing the nature of women,"
Ms. Abzug said in 1996.
She had helped pave the way nearly

place is in the House — the House of

Representatives" and the backing of the New York Democratic Party's reform wing, Ms. Abzug beat Representative

in the general election, becoming the

first Jewish woman in Congress.

Ms. Abzug died of complications fol-

war in Vietnam, died Tuesday.

about three and a half weeks.

30 years earlier.

With the slogan

tan's Upper West Side.

curiosity.

Special

said, as she sat on one of the front-room chairs, carefully made up and dressed in a black blouse studded with sequins, "Wherever there are men there are women. Everyone should understand this. There is no country in the world that doesn't have this. The only question is, is it legal or illegal?"

Most annoying to Ms. Kuan, beyond losing her job, is that tens of thousands of unlicensed, illegal prostitutes are still plying their trade in this city of 6 million that has long been known for its relaxed attitudes toward sexual entertainments. Indeed, at most five-star hotels here, as well as at innumerable 'love hotels," illegal prostitutes are readily avail-

The licensing of prostitutes in Taiwan goes back a century, first under Japanese rule, and then under the Nationalist government.

Until last year, there were 55 licensed brothels in Taiwan employing 364 women. From the 18 women at Buds of Grace Tower here in Taipei, to the two women who worked in a tiny brothel in Nantou, all were required to undergo medical checks each week for sexually transmitted disease.

Ms. Kuan thumbed the pages of her work permit, pages splashed with the blue stamps from her weekly clinic visits, and then unrolled Buds of Grace's license, "Taipei City Brothel Permit." it read, No.

"We get 700 Taiwan dollars for each customer," she explained, about \$22, "and the madam gets 300," or about \$9.40. "This is far more than you can make in a factory. Ours is a very egalitarian

R. CHEN will have none of it. When he proposed abolishing legalized prosti-tution last year, the 48-member City Council applauded his efforts and approved his legislation. But when the prostitutes and their supporters marched to City Hall, the City Council quickly backpedaled and voted to nullify the law. The mayor did not care; he ordered the brothels kept closed.

'If there are not licensed prostitutes, there will still be prostitution underground," said Wang Fang-ping, a social activist who has been working with the licensed prostitutes to get the brothels reopened. "This is not the way to reduce vice or reduce the number of prostitutes. Those men with money will still find a way to find a prostitute. It's only these women who are licensed who are af-

Ting Yuan-chin, the director-general of the National Police Administration, shrugged when asked about enforcing the mayor's edict.

Bella Abzug, Feminist and Politician, Is Dead at 77

TRAVEL UPDATE

Pentagon Papers.

fourth term.

tinues to hold.

In 1976, she decided to run against

Daniel Moynihan in the Democratic

that November, the Senate seat he con-

"Battlin' Bella" and "Mother Cour-

age," as she was dubbed by the tabloids,

also lost runs for New York City mayor

and two attempts to return to Con-

Her last bid was in 1986, the year her husband, Martin Abzug, died. She re-

turned to suburban Westchester County,

where she and her husband had raised



Kuan Hsui-chin, a licensed prostitute in Taipei, says her job was safe and paid well.

"This vice is a fact," he said. "But we don't want to let it get out of hand. Licensed prostitution has been going down anyway.'

Many of the women who worked in the brothels said they have no other way of earning a living, and certainly no way to earn as much as they had as prostitutes. Already, three prostitutes are reported to have attempted suicide, apparently in despair over finding a way to support their families.

Ms. Kuan said that when her brothel was in business, she earned 100,000 Taiwan dollars in an

average month, about \$3,125.

"This is very safe work," she said. "If the guest isn't polite or drinks, you can throw him out. We're not the same as private prostitutes."

Ms. Kuan, who does not read very well, said that she could not find any other job at her age and so for the moment was relying on \$470 a month in unemployment benefits from the city. And like many of the other women, she continues to live at the "They say we have no dignity," Ms. Kuan said

quietly, sitting beside a pair of red scrolls daubed with a classical Chinese couplet: "Protect a flower and sympathize with the fragrant guest; Love uncut jade and it becomes a cherished gem."
"We don't steal," she said. "We don't cheat.

What is undignified about that? "If we take handouts from the government, that

term Republican, Representative Jo-

She retained her tough personality -

through the years. In 1979, President

committee after she criticized him. In

1996, she said she supported President

Bill Clinton's re-election "because the

Republicans are advancing a pre-fascist

In 1995, former President George Bush, noting her attendance at the UN

conference on women in Beijing, said:
"I feel somewhat sorry for the Chinese

having Bella Abzug running around

is andignified. "Everyone does what they can."

seph DioGuardi.

the Vietnam documents known as the their family, and tried to unseat a first-

Senate primary instead of running for a and the disdain of conservatives -

Mr. Moynihan won the primary and, Jimmy Carter fired her from an advisory

# Africa's Cloudy Beacong

By Howard W. French New York Times Service

DAKAR, Senegal - When Leopold Sedar Senghor, the poet who was this country's first president, voluntarily resigned from politics in 1980 after more than 20 years in office, the gesture sent shock waves throughout this region.

Mr. Senghor's peers were still reeling from his gradual introduction of multiparty politics, starting in 1976, which broke with a near-uniform pattern of one-party rule in West Africa.

But for French-speaking authoritarians like Felix Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast, Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea, or Seyni Kountche of Niger, the resignation was tantamount to sacrilege against the seeming unwritten rule of African politics: power is far too pre-cious to be surrendered.

Eighteen years later, Mr. Senghor's chosen successor, Abdou Diouf, remains president of this country of nine million people, where President Bill Clinton arrived Tuesday. But Mr. Diouf, 63, who was prime minister for 10 years before he became president, is already gearing up for re-election to another seven-year term two years from now.

For many in Senegal, and increasingly for political analysts throughout West Africa, the story of Mr. Diouf's tenure is one of how a country once considered a progressive model showing the possibilities of African politics has become a cautionary example of political cynicism and complacency.

In the 1990s, while other countries in the region were rejecting their one-party pasts and organizing increasingly competitive elections, many Senegalese have complained that their country. long known for political openness and innovation, has held a series of elections in which a machine-like ruling party has bought votes, played with the rules or manipulated the results to maintain its 38-year lock on power.

It is widely believed in Senegal, for example, that an opposition candidate rightfully won the 1988 presidential election. The latest example of votetampering occurred in 1996, when a Western diplomat called local elections 'flawed both in terms of process and in

terms of fraud." For many Senegalese, the ultimate sign of backsliding came recently when a government minister and senior member of the governing Socialist Party. Khalifa Sall, proposed changing the constitution to lift the two-term limit on the presidency, a provision considered revolutionary when Senegal adopted it

When a citizen has the confidence of his fellow countrymen he should be able to run at all times," Mr. Sall said. pledging to lead the drive to amend the constitution. But his proposal unleashed a torrent of criticism.

"Finally what one must conclude is that it is very comfortable to be in power," said Landing Savane, leader of the opposition party And Jef, who was once jailed for protesting fraud. "But after 20 years in power, a ruling cliq comes to resemble a matia, and heads of the mafia generally don't resign."

When Prime Minister Lionel Jospin of France visited several former French colonies in December, he urged Africa to develop a "genuine culture of alternation and opposition, without which democracy in any country, including the West, cannot exist.

Although Mr. Jospan's remarks were made in neighboring Mali, many Sene-galese welcomed the forceful language. of a Western leader in favor of African democracy, and have said they hope that Mr. Clinton will be similarly outspoken.

Ousman Tanor Dieng, the first secretary of Senegal's governing party and minister of presidential affairs, said he welcomed the statements by Mr. Jospin and other foreign leaders, but he said they would have little impact.

For now the biggest challenges to Mr. Diouf and his party will come not from foreign diplomats or longtime oppo-nents, but from former political insiders. In this regard, Senegal may again set an example for others in West Africa.

With legislative elections in May, this country's political scene has been shaken by the creeping defection from the Socialist Party of a former foreign minister. Djibo Ka, whose calls for democratic changes, coming from a dissenting insider, have struck a chord here. Taken aback by Mr. Ka's outspoken

appeals in December for a new democratic spirit in the country, the party suspended him from its membership. and the government temporarily barre him from leaving the country.

But these measures made Mr. Ka a

Franction-

· wind Jones

leal Team

national celebrity, and jump-started his. efforts to recruit dissident candidates for the legislative elections. 🐴

## U.S. Report Blames German Crew for Crash Near Africa

By Bradley Graham Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — U.S. Air Force investigators have concluded that a German military plane was flying at the wrong altitude off the coast of Africa on Sept. 13 when it collided with a U.S. military C-141, killing all 33 people cn the planes.

A report released Tuesday holds the crew of the German Tupolev-154 chiefly responsible for the late afternoon collision at 35,000 feet (10,600 meters) over the Atlantic about 65 nautical miles (120 kilometers) west of Namibia. But the report also cites air-traffic controllers in Luanda, Angola, and the "convoluted" routing of air-traffic control messages through a complicated regional communications system as "substantially contributing" factors.

The American aircraft was en route to the Azores, about an hour after departing Namibia, when it collided with the German plane, which was flying to Namibia from Niger.

The U.S. plane was cruising at its assigned altitude of 35,000 feet, while the German aircraft had planned to fly at 39,000 feet, investigators found @ en the direction it was heading, the f stipulate certain altin

pass headings, in Colonel Will Air Force, : tion, refer-

## Austria Frees Borders

instead of "abrasive," "forceful" in-

patient, impetuous, uppity, rude, pro-

fane, brash and overbearing," she wrote in her 1972 book, "Bella!" "Whether

I'm any of these things, or all of them,

whatever I am — and this ought to be

made very clear at the outset - I am a

Abzug introduced a resolution to

withdraw all U.S. soldiers from In-

dochina. It was defeated. She had bet-

ter luck when she invoked a littleknown procedural tactic that forced

the Nixon administration to surrender

On her first day in Congress, Ms.

'There are those who say I'm im-

stead of "strident."

lowing heart surgery at Columbia Pres- you can decide for yourself. But

#### Leonard Farbstein, a seven-term Democrat, in the 1970 primary on Manhat-VIENNA (AFP) - Austria will abol-She then defeated the talk-show host ish land border controls with Germany Barry Farber by fewer than 9,000 votes

and Italy on Wednesday as it joins the Schengen border-free area within the European Union.

It was the early years of what was still The Bavarian interior minister. known as "women's liberation," and Guenther Beckstein, expressed resertough-minded women were treated as a vations about Italy's ability to control its long maritime border to stop illegal im-Ms. Abzug, a labor and civil rights lawyer and peace activist before she went into politics, became a lightning migrants from getting into the country. But the Austrian foreign minister, Karl Schloegl, said that in 1997 only 3 perrod for publicity. She often said that the cent of illegal immigrants arrested in adjectives would have been different if Austria had transited through Italy. she had been a man — "courageous" Signatory countries of the Schengen

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accord are Austria, the Benelux countries, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal

Commuters on their way to work Wednesday on one of Singapore's main highways will have a toll deducted from a stored-value cash card by a computerized robotic eye.

Russian Transaero airlines will begin service between Moscow and Strasbourg and add three weekly flights between Moscow and Tel Aviv to its current five. (Reuters)

Philippine officials ordered the country's virgin forests closed to tourists this summer to prevent fires. (AP)

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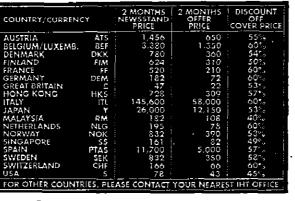
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THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN

# \*\*Conduct on Both Sides in the Jones Suit Is Called Particularly Nasty

By Ruth Marcus

Washington Post Service

ly Beacon

Democracy Falters

though Mr. Jospin's temarks were in neighboring Mali, many Sene-welcomed the forceful language Western leader in favor of African and have said they have that

cracy and have said they hope that

linton will be similarly outspoken.

isman Tanor Dieng, the first sec-

of Senegal's governing party and ster of presidential affairs, said he

omed the statements by Mr. Jospin

Other foreign leaders, but he said

r now the biggest challenges to Mr.

f and his party will come not from

in diplomats or longtime oppo-

but from former political insiders.

s regard. Senegal may again set an

ple for others in West Africa.
th legislative elections in May, this

ry's political scene has been shaken e creeping defection from the So

t Party of a former foreign minister, Ka, whose calls for demo cratic ges, coming from a dissenting in-

would have little impact.

WASHINGTON — Civil litigation can be a nasty business. But in the lengthy annals of legal nastiness, the conduct of both sides in the Paula Jones sexual harassment lawsuit against President Bill Clinton has been particularly unpleasant and some legal experts say the lawyers have

crossed over the line of appropriate conduct.
In the last few weeks, Mrs. Jones's lawyers have splattered onto the public record an array of allegations about Mr. Clinton's involvement with other women - apparently unrestrained by Judge Susan Webber Wright of U.S. District Court and despite the consensus among legal experts that little, if any, of the evidence stands any chance of being admitted at a trial.

A particularly sensational new accusation came Saturday, when the Jones lawyers included in a filing an unsubstantiated, third-party allegation that Mr. Clinton had raped a woman 20

Kathleen Willey, that were requested by the Jones lawyers in the discovery process, even though it managed to release to the media 15 letters from Mrs. Willey the morning after she alleged on "60 Minutes" that the president had groped her near the Oval Office.

The Clinton team's explanation — that Mrs. Jones's lawyers did not get the documents because they should have asked for them from the White House rather than from Mr. Clinton personally - gives new meaning to the word legalistic. Some experts said it could be a violation of the rules that govern how documents are supposed to be provided in civil cases.

There's enough fault here to go around, and this is a case in which the judge is partly responsible," said a law professor at George Washington University, Stephen Saltzburg. "The judge has permitted the lawyers to make

her court look silly." Mrs. Jones's request to Mr. Clinton last

For its part, the Clinton team failed to turn December asked for "all documents concerning were engaged in game-playing in not turning it over letters from a former White House aide, Kathleen Willey," including telephone logs or over and there's no excuse for it." other communications, and directed him to turn over "not only the documents and things in your immediate possession, but also those over which you have custody or control." Mr. Clinton's lawyers objected, saying the request was intended to embarrass the president, but added that even so, "President Clinton has no documents responsive to this request."

"A federal judge would never tolerate that kind of argument," said Stephen Gillers, a New York University legal ethics expert. "The documents were obviously within the power of the president to release, and notwithstanding that he's being sued in his personal capacity, he has control over them and could have produced

Debra Katz, a lawyer who handles sexual harassment cases on the side of workers, said: "I think it's absolutely improper. The question was asked in such a way that these documents clearly should have been produced. The Clinton folks

But some other lawyers noted that the Jones team was not harmed by Mr. Clinton's failure to produce the documents because they were not damaging to the president.

Mark Dichter, a Philadelphia management lawyer, said: "Is it a big deal? Probably not. They are letters which, if anything, are favorable to them, so they'd want to produce them."

Legal experts said the Jones lawyers went overboard in putting some of the new allegations against Mr. Clinton into the public record. That is because much of the evidence about his alleged relations with other women is unlikely to be admitted in a trial since it involves purportedly consensual activity, took place long before or after his 1991 encounter with Mrs. Jones, or both.

Referring to the inclusion of the rape allegation, Ms. Katz said: "It's appalling and the judge should be calling those lawyers in and seriously reining them in. It is completely in-

of defendants.

detector test.

ning such evidence.

appropriate to put forward allegations that had been denied, that are unsworn." She added: "This is obviously another attempt to put in the headlines allegations that this president is a predatory, out-of-control fiend. This is not reasonably related to the allegations that Jones has to prove in her case."

Mr. Dichter said it was "hard" to see how that was "done for any reason other than trying to

taint and smear him." The Jones lawyers struggled with the issue themselves. "It was a close call internally as to

whether we ought to file it," said one of Mrs. Jones's lawyers, T. Wesley Holmes.

But in the end, he said, they decided the allegation was relevant to their argument that Mr. Clinton has engaged in a "vast enterprise" to suppress evidence because they believed the purported victim was frightened into silence.

There's another example of where there's allegedly evidence we ought to be able to get that we haven't been able to because of intimidation," Mr. Holmes said.

High Court Upholds a Ban

On Lie Detectors in Trials

## **Clinton Asks** . For Sanctions Against Jones's Legal Team

By Francis X. Clines New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton has moved for contempt sanctions against Paula Jones's legal team, saying that it released a flood of false and salacious accusations over the weekend that violated the court's guidelines and tainted potential jurors.

Responding to the accusations by lawyers for Mrs. Jones, Robert Bennett, the president's lawyer, denied there was any obligation on the part of the president to release official White House documents sought under a personal subpoena. The documents in question related to Kathleen Willey, a former White House volunteer and potential witness in Mrs. Jones's sexual-harassment lawsuit who has accused the president of groping her in the White House.

"The president responded fully to all subpoenas directed to him personally,' Mr. Bennett insisted in response to the complaint filed Saturday by the Jones lawyers. Those lawyers maintained that the subpoenaed Willey documents, which were denied to them in January, had been made public by the White House to undercut Mrs. Willey within hours of her interview in March on CBS's "60 Minutes" program.

In seeking contempt sanctions, Mr. Bennett accused the Jones law firm -Rader, Campbell, Fisher & Pyke of Dallas — of violating court disclosure strictures by releasing unsworn and unsigned hearsay accusations that the president sexually assaulted a woman two decades ago.

## ■ Ex-Miss America Admits Tryst

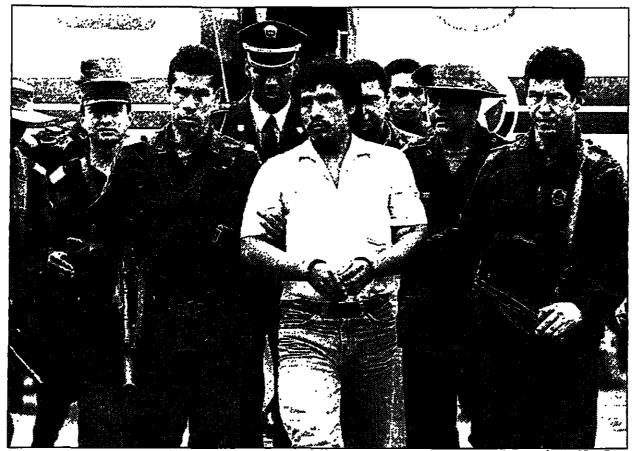
The Daily News reported Tuesday that a former Miss America whose testimony has been sought by lawyers in the lawsuit says she had sex with Mr. Clinton when he was Arkansas governor but that it mas consensual, Reuters reported

The newspaper quoted an actress, Elizabeth Ward Gracen, as saying she had come forward to deny allegations by a former friend that Mr. Clinton forced her into sex in the back of a limousine in 1982.

Ms. Gracen, 37, who plays a role in the TV series "Highlander," previously denied any sexual liaison with Mr. Clinton, the Daily News said.

"The lies gain credibility every day that I don't address them," Ms. Gracen was quoted as saying in the newspaper. "I had to put a stop to it. It's become a three-ring circus. This is something I don't want to talk about at all. It's no one's business at all."

Ms. Gracen said she met Mr. Clinton at an apartment in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1983. They had previously met socially. They were both married, and it was the year after Ms. Gracen's reign as Miss America.



A suspected rebel, Maximo Perez, after being arrested in Florencia, Colombia. He is accused of being a leader of the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces. A faction of that group has seized four Americans and an Italian.

## **Search Continues for Colombia Hostages**

BOGOTA- The Colombian Army has scaled back military operations as aid agencies search a mountainous region east of Bogota for guerrillas who took four Americans and an Italian hostage more than a week ago.

A commander for the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces, which is they proved to be undercover U.S. in- of Bogota on March 23. The Italian,

telligence agents. But a rebel spokesman played down that threat Monday, saying any decision about the fate of the five hostages would be made by the group's national leadership.

The U.S. Embassy has declined to confirm the names of the American hosres. The U.S. State Department has said all four were on a bird-watching holding the hostages, threatened over trip when they were seized at a highway the weekend to kill the Americans if roadblock 50 kilometers (35 miles) east

Vito Candela, lives in Colombia and owns a well-known Bogota restaurant. "If they are found to have nothing to do with the war, then the problem would

be resolved very quickly and in the best manner," Marco Leon Calarca, the rebel group's spokesman, said in Mexico City, where he lives

If they were found to be agents, he added, the situation would "get more complicated" and the group's leadership would have to decide what to do.

#### nity remains extremely polarized about reliability of polygraph techniques," Justice Thomas wrote. "There

is simply no way to know in a particular case whether a polygraph examiner's conclusion is accurate. The military ban on use of such evidence "does not unconstitutionally

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Su-

preme Court on Tuesday upheld a ban on the use of the results of lie-detector tests in military courts, saying the ban

did not violate the constitutional rights

court said as it ruled, 8 to 1, in the case of

a California airman who wanted to tell a

The decision probably also will have

Without rejecting outright the argu-

ment that defendants may have a con-

stitutional right to have lie-detector ev-

idence admitted at trial, the justices

apparently are willing to allow many

state and federal courts to continue ban-

fering conclusions as to whether poly-

Justice Clarence Thomas wrote for the

Supreme Court.
"To this day, the scientific commu-

graph evidence should be admitted,

Courts "may reasonably reach dif-

court-martial jury that he passed a lie-

an impact on civilian courts.

There is simply no consensus that polygraph evidence is reliable," the

abridge the right to present a defense, The ruling reverses a military appeals

should not have been automatically

barred from introducing lie-detector results during his court-martial on charges of using drugs and writing bad checks.

A rule signed by President George Bush in 1991 forbade any reference to

lie-detector tests in military criminal But the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces said that rule violated Edward Scheffer's right under the Constitution's Sixth Amendment to present relevant evidence in his defense. The appeals court said Mr. Scheffer should

be given a chance to convince a judge that the test results should be allowed. Justice Department lawyers argued to the Supreme Court that polygraph tests were unreliable and that people could defeat them through techniques such as biting their tongue when certain ques-

tions were asked. But Mr. Scheffer's lawyer questioned why the military conducted almost 35,000 lie-detector tests in 1992 if it considered the tests unreliable.

Mr. Scheffer was stationed at March Air Force Base in California in 1992, when he was charged with writing bad checks, using methamphetamine and being absent without leave.

A lie-detector test indicated he answered truthfully when he denied taking drugs, but a urine test was positive for the drug. Mr. Scheffer was not allowed to use the results of the lie-detector test in his defense at trial.

Justice John Paul Stevens dissented from the ruling, saying it "rests on a serious undervaluation of the importance court's decision that said an airman of the citizen's constitutional right to present a defense to a criminal charge.

# Buckled Up, From Takeoff to Landing

WASHINGTON — The decision by American Airlines and United Airlines this week to require passengers to keep their seat belts buckled whenever they are seated will give the seat belt sign

new meaning.

Although final details are still to be worked out, passengers would be required to be seated and buckled in when the seat belt signal is illuminated; when the sign is not lit, they could get up, stand in the aisles or go to the lavatory. But if they are seated, they would have to have their belts buckled.

The requirement is intended to reduce injuries from turbulence, the pockets of unstable air that buffet airplanes, often without warning.

"We're doing this because we've studied our turbulence incidence," said

John Hotard, a spokesman for American Airlines. "The overwhelming majority of passengers who are hurt in those instances are not wearing their seat belts. The plane goes up, and they hit their head, back or shoulders and are

injured." One problem is how to enforce the policy. The cabin crew can enforce federal rules, and passengers who disobey can be arrested when the plane lands. But their authority to enforce company policy is less clear.

"You're always going to have some lawyer or somebody who says, 'You cannot tell me what to do,' "Mr. Hotard said. "We will ask the person to buckle their seat belt, but we are not going to

push it." American was the first to announce the requirement and said it was still

working out the details, including when the policy would take effect and how to persuade passengers to comply. United Airlines said late Monday it also would adopt a seat belt requirement, though it did not specify a date. Another major U.S. carrier, Delta Air Lines, said it would wait to see if the Federal Aviation Administration changed its rules.

In a statement, the aviation agency administrator, Jane Garvey, congratulated American "for taking this positive safety step" and encouraged other airlines to consider following suit.

About half a dozen times a year, passengers on American Airlines planes are hurt badly enough to require medical attention, Mr. Hotard said. In December, one passenger was killed when a United Airlines flight from Tokyo to Honolulu hit turbulence. (NYT, AP)

terminology and phraseology," he said. Officials said Moriday that among

areas of the report that were considered

for tougher language were sections

dealing with Cuba's capacity to produce biological weapons. While administra-

tion officials do not allege that Cuba has such weapons, "You can't say there's no capability," a defense official said.

# Plebiscites Remain

POLITICAL NOTES

Popular With Voters LOS ANGELES — Twenty years ago this June, angry California voters unleashed the revolution of Proposition 13, the ballot initiative that capped local property tax rates, cutting \$5 billion in taxes statewide — a

feat the state's politicians had contended was impossible. The revolutionaries' weapon was a trusty tool of the Progressive Era that had fallen into disuse: the citizen ini-

The success of Proposition 13 began a new era. The number of propositions appearing on the California ballot doubled in the next decade and

has risen steadily since. In the June primary, California voters will face five new proposals, on issues, including ending the primary in the primary in the primary is the primary to the primary to

education in the public schools and requiring labor unions to get their members' permission each year to use their dues for political activities. On the November ballot, there will be perhaps 10 more proposals. From Alaska to Florida, petitions

are being circulated to place before voters proposals to cut taxes and to limit political terms, to cap elementary school class sizes, to allow the use of marijuana and to bar the use of "body-gripping" animal traps.
Politicians of both parties in Cali-

fornia agree that the situation is out of hand, but the public remains overwhelmingly in favor of the process. "It's a legitimate remedy for leg-

islative default," said Governor Pete Wilson, who made Proposition 187, an initiative to deny social services to illegal immigrants, the centerpiece of

his successful 1994 re-election campaign, and who is sponsoring two more initiatives this year and lending

his support to others. 'And like the First Amendment." Mr. Wilson said, "it's often honored when it's being abused."

## **Budget Fight Looms**

WASHINGTON - The White House's top budget official has warned congressional Republicans that they were heading for confrontation on several fronts.

Both the Senate's proposed budget and the House's pending \$217 billion transportation bill could cause legislative gridlock, argued Franklin Raines, director of the Office of Management and Budget. He said both pieces of legislation as drafted may leave Congress with too little money to finance priorities of the Democrats or the Republicans.

"It's a hazardous path we're on, with very few days that the Congress will be here to resolve it," Mr. Raines

He also came out against the notion of radical changes in Social Security, including privatization options being discussed by Republicans. (AP)

## Quote/Unquote

Newt Gingrich, writing in the book "Lessons Learned the Hard Way," that liberals and the news media worked to undermine his leadership but admitting that more important were his own failures: "I am astonished at how badly I underestimated the size and intensity of the problems that would confront me as speaker." (AP)

## Pentagon Revises Report Playing Down Cuban Military Threat

By Dana Priest Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - A Defense Department assessment has found that the Cuban military does not pose a national security threat to the United Stares, but the report's release has been delayed while officials consider revisions that might bring it in line with tough U.S. policies concerning the country, according to national security officials.

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The classified report was scheduled to be released Tuesday to members of Congress who requested it last year. But Defense Secretary William Cohen said he wanted to read the report before it was distributed, and other administration and defense officials met Monday in an effort to harden the language, to "make it more presentable," a defense official said. In part, the report concludes that the

Cuban armed forces have been signif-

icantly diminished, that its military is

**Away From Politics** 

on light trucks since 1994.

Texas, Kansas and Arkansas.

92,000 crashes and 58,000 injuries annually.

according to a study released by the federal

geared toward defending Cuba rather than making offensive moves and that severe shortages of fuel and spare parts have reduced its Soviet-built MiG jetfighter force to two squadrons, according to individuals who have seen or been briefed on the assessment. A senior official at the National Se-

the administration was speaking with

curity Council explained the revisions under consideration as "making sure that one voice" on Cuba. "It gets down to

• Center brake lights on cars prevent at least from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Seventeen people suffered minor injuries during evac-

uation from the Royal Airlines flight, which

government's highway safety agency. The had been bound for Toronto. third brake light, often mounted at the bottom center of the back windshield, has been re- A 13-year-old girl committed suicide in a quired on cars since the 1986 model year and bathroom at a school in Chapel Hill, North (AP) Carolina. Students said the seventh-grader, who shot herself, was new to Grey Culbreth • Florida executed the killer of a conveni-Middle School and had mentioned problems ence store clerk in the fourth execution in the at home.

state's electric chair in nine days. Daniel Remeta had been convicted of murdering the Women have been appointed for the first clerk, Mehrle Reeder, during a 1985 robbery time to a top leadership body of the Re-organized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter that netted \$50. He was linked to four other slayings during a crime spree across Florida, Day Saints. Church delegates in Missouri named Linda Booth and Gail Mengel to the (Reuters) Council of 12 Apostles, which is second only • An engine failed and caught fire on a to the three-member First Presidency in the chartered jet, forcing the pilot to abort takeoff church hierarchy.

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## ASIA/PACIFIC

## **Defectors** Surrender A Temple

Cambodian Flag Flies Over Khmer Rouge Spot

KHAO PRAVIHARN, Thailand -The Cambodian flag fluttered over the ancient Preah Vihear temple Tuesday for the first time in years after Khmer Rouge guerrillas defected to the govemment side.

The Thai commander of forces based on the border here opposite the ruins said the guerrillas had relinquished control of the temple Monday.

The Khmer Rouge on the temple mountain defected and handed the temple over to government troops late on Monday, "said the commander, Col-onel Chaiyan Huaysoongnern. From the Thai base here, dozens of

people could be seen strolling around the ruins while the Cambodian flag. with its image of the Angkor Wat temple, flew overhead The Khmer Rouge were hit by fresh mutinies last week that could spell the

end of the guerrilla army held respon-sible for more than a million deaths during its 1975-78 rule, Thai military officials and analysts said. The Cambodian government said Thursday that the northwest town of Anlong Veng, the guerrillas' last stronghold, had been taken over by rebel

defectors. The group's leaders and former chief. Pol Pot, had taken refuge in nearby mountains, it said. There have been clashes between the defectors and their former comrades, forcing thousands of civilians to flee.

while other Khmer Rouge units have followed their comrades over to government ranks. The Khmer Rouge have made a mass defection and either lost or handed over all of their footholds to the Hun Sen army," said a Cambodian civilian of-

ficial on the border, referring to the government of Second Prime Minister Hun Sen. The 800-year-old Preah Vihear temple, about 60 kilometers (40 miles) east of Anlong Veng, sits on the edge of the Dongrek escarpment overlooking the Cambodian plain. The subject of a territorial dispute between Cambodia and Thailand in the 1950s and early 1960s, the temple had been occupied by

A Khmer Rouge spokesman said by telephone that the group's military commander, Ta Mok, its political leader, Khieu Samphan, and other hard-line faction leaders from Anlong Veng had led about 5,000 followers to high

Khmer Rouge guerrillas since the early

ground near the Thai border. The fighters and leaders are about five to six kilometers from the Thai border, while the civilians are poised to cross into Thailand," the official said. He declined to reveal the where-

abouts of Pol Pot, who was purged by his comrades last year and sentenced to life under house arrest after a falling-out among the group's leaders.

Thai villagers said about 5,000 Khmer Rouge followers from Anlong Veng had already taken refuge in Thailand. But the Thai Army has blocked access to the area and said the Khmer Rouge were still in Cambodia.



Cambodians seeking refuge in Sisaket, Thailand, on Tuesday from fighting between Khmer Rouge loyalists and mutineers. Guerrilla defectors handed over an ancient temple to the Phnom Penh government Monday.

## TV Tokyo Has a New, Safer Version of a Cartoon That Caused Fits

TOKYO .- A popular cartoon that was canceled after causing convulsions in hundreds of children will re-

turn to Japan's TV lineup soon. TV Tokyo, one of Japan's largest commercial broadcasters, plans to have a revised version of the "Pocket Monsters" cartoon back on the air April 16, a spokesman for the broadcaster, Hiroshi Uramoto, said Tuesday.

gram detailing an investigation into why the Dec. 6 episode touched off symptoms ranging from nausea to fainting in at least 700 viewers.

The reactions are believed to have been caused by the use of colorful

flashing lights to depict an explosion. Mr. Uramoto said the new "Pocket Monsters" episodes had been made that made so many viewers ill.

Mr. Uramoto said the network under stricter guidelines limiting the would first broadcast a special pro- use of potentially dangerous visuals, including flashing lights.

"Pocket Monsters," which is based on a video game made by Nintendo Co., was one of the most popular children's shows in Japan and features a slew of little creatures that can transform themselves. An estimated 12 million people were watching the episode

#### BRIEFLY

## Bombs Kill 2 in Pakistan

KARACHI, Pakistan — Bombs exploded at an ice cream parlor and a shopping mall here Tuesday, killing two people and injuring 24, the police said.

No one claimed responsibility for the two bombs, the latest in a series of attacks that have rocked Karachi. Pakistan's financial center.

The first bomb exploded in the ice cream shop soon after it opened, killing one person, injuring 12 and destroying the shop. The police said the explosion had been caused by a

Twenty minutes later, a second explosion ripped through a shopping mall, killing one person and injuring 12. The police said that bomb had been planted under a vendor's cart outside. Many shops were uamages, were limited because most of the businesses had not yet (AP) cart outside. Many shops were damaged, but casualties

## Annan Hails China Rights Step

BEIJING - The UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan, said Tuesday he was pleased at Beijing's recent invitation to receive the top United Nations human-rights official. Earlier in the day, Mary Robinson, the UN high commissioner for human rights, said she planned to visit China in September.

Mr. Annan, touring the five countries that are permanent members of the UN Security Council, said after talks with Deputy Prime Minister Qian Qichen that he welcomed China's pledge to sign UN pacts enshrining political and

"I am also particularly encouraged that they have invited Mrs. Robinson to visit," Mr. Annan said. (Reuters)

## Indonesian Rebels Name Leader

JAKARTA — Guerrillas fighting Indonesia's rule in East Timor have named a successor to their leader, Nino Konis Santana, who died in an accidental fall, resistance sources said Tuesday.

The East Timor International Support Center, which is based in Darwin, Australia, said it had received a statement from the armed resistance movement Falintil saying its leadership had been taken over by Mr. Santana's chief of staff, Taur Matan Ruak.

## Dhaka Moves to Protect Women

DHAKA - The cabinet has approved the death penalty tor crimes against women including trafficking, rape and murder, Bangladeshi legal officials said Tuesday.

They said Parliament was expected to pass the measure into law in a few days.

Currently, the maximum punishment for such crimes is 10 years in prison. The police said the death penalty was being introduced following a spate in trafficking and rape, in which the victims included girls as young as 6. Three women were raped in Dhaka on Monday when the cabinet was discussing the death penalty, the police said. (Reuters)

# Malaysian Minister Sees A Plot by Wostorn M

Political Agenda' Suspected in Reports on Crisis

By Thomas Fuller Invernational Herald Tribune

KUALA LUMPUR - Echoing criticism heard frequently in Southeast Asia, Malaysia's information minister said Tuesday that the foreign media had interfered in the internal affairs of countries in the region and that foreign news organizations had a "political

The minister, Mohamed Rahmat, charged at a gathering of international publishers here that Western media coverage had not been sensitive to Asian cultures and was "politically motivated with the purpose of eroding the confidence the people as well as foreign investors have in these economies."

Terms like economic turmoil, economic melidown, economic uncertainties and economic chaos were "loosely" used to describe events in recent months, Mr. Rahmat said. "I suppose this trend of coverage has some kind of political agenda." he added.

Analysts said the minister's comments reflected the frustration that officials in Malaysia and elsewhere in Southeast Asia have about the image of their countries following the economic crisis that began last year.

"We had the haze, we had the economic crisis, then we had the refugees and now we have a water shortage, Abdul Razak Abdullah Baginda, executive director of the Malaysian Strategic Research Center, said in an interview. "Eight months ago we were really up there on the pedestal but now we've fallen. Malaysia's pride has been hurt and the last thing you want is someone rubbing it in.

Domestic newspapers and media outlets in Malaysia are closely monitored by the government, and editors and reporters say they are often given in-structions by officials on what stories to run or what information they may use in their articles.

Last Thursday, reports broadcast in Asia by cable television of riots at a detention center were blacked out in Malaysia. At least nine persons died in the violence.

Mr. Rahmat questioned whether Asian countries wanted the type of journalism that he said had emerged in the West, where even the "respected" media "are following their tabloid cousins in rapid descent into the gutter as they seek to build circulation and reap profits for their shareholders."

"Is this what we want in Asia?" Mr. Rahmat asked. "Many of our nations in this region are relative newcomers to the ways of democracy. In fact, we are still in the process of fashioning a democratic system that fits our cultural, ethical and moral sensitivities."

In contrast to the Western press, "the media in Malaysia have always put the interest of the nation at heart." Mr. Rahmat said at a conference of the Asian Newspaper Publishers Convention and Exposition and the Germanbased International Association for Newspapers and Media Technology.

Criticism of the international media's recent coverage of the region's economic crisis has often centered on the idea of cultural sensitivity. Chandra Muzaffar, professor of polit-

ical science at the University of Malaya, gives the example of a well-publicized

photograph taken earlier this year of President Suharto of Indonesia signing an agreement as the managing director of the International Monetary Fund, Michel Camdessus, stood nearby with arms crossed.

"I don't think Camdessus meant to degrade the man." Mr. Chandra said. "But that's the way it came across. One has to be conscious of the cultural terrain. A lot of people felt the Indonesian nation was being humiliated."

Mr. Chandra said that the Western media tended to see the region in homogeneous terms. "One also gets the impression that some of these newspapers tend to be a little gleeful when they report on the economic crisis," he

Not all analysts in Malaysia agree. In a globalized world, countries must play by international rules, said the director of a research center who wished to remain anonymous.

We should leave this archaic, developing world mentality behind," he added. "If you want to be a developed country you have to learn to cope with

## **Malaysia Continues** To Bar UN Officials At Illegals' Camps

GENEVA - The United Nations refugee agency said Tuesday that it was still seeking access to camps in Malay-sia where illegal immigrants from Indonesia are being held but had not won Judith Kumin, a spokesman for the

UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said that Malaysian authorities had taken note of repeated requests from the commissioner, Sadako Ogata, for her staff to be allowed into the camps.

But the request has so far not been granted." she said, adding that contacts were continuing.

On Monday, 14 Indonesians from among more than 100 who fled from the Lenggeng detention center during a deportation operation last Thursday rammed a truck into the refugee agency compound in Kuala Lumpur. Twelve of the 14 asked for protection; the two others have Malaysian residence per-

Ms. Kumin said the agency had asked Malaysian authorities not to intervene. A militant group from the Indonesian province of Aceh on Sumatra, where a separatist revolt peaked in the early

1990s, says the 14 are from there and fear persecution if they are repatriated.

Malaysia said Tuesday that it considered the Indonesians illegal immigrants who are to be deported.

'Our position is very clear." said the Foreign Ministry undersecretary for Southeast Asia and South Pacific, Mohd Arshad, "We don't recognize the Acehnese as having any grounds for seeking political asylum."

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He said that Malaysia would allow the UN refugee agency time to examine the cases of the Indonesian immigrants. but that there had been no change in the policy of barring access to detention camps' where illegal immigrants are held.

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## GENERAL

Personals

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# nister Sees tern Media

Actiograph taken earlier this year of assident Suharto of Indonesia signing assistant as the managing director and the international Monetary Fundamentary and Camdessus, stood nearly fundamentary. Mirbei Camdessus, stood nearby with

don't think Camdessus mean lu degrade the man, Mr. Chandra said But that's the way it came across One But man s une may recome across. One Man. A los of people felt the Indonesian person was being humiliated.

Mr. Chandra said that the Western media tended to see the region in ho angeneous terms. One also gets the impression that some of these news

they report on the economic crisis. he said.

The globalized world, countries must be international rules, and the said. play by international rules, said the difortain of a research center who wished to remain anonymous.

Remain amountment. veloping world mentality behind the added. "If you want to be a developed country, you have to learn to cope with

## Malaysia Continues To Bar UN Officials At Illegals' Camps

SGENEVA — The United Nations makee agency said Turiday that was seeking access to camps in Malay. Spaces are being held but held not und innouroval: High Commissioner of Refugees, and other Mailey or anthones had Mich page of Terror

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# and in Reports on Crisis

By Michael R. Gordon New York Times Service

been a grandiose exercise in conflict and

what it should say. Politicians are still squabbling over its tricolor flag. A govto develop a "national idea" came up soul have centuries. empty-handed.

The country's unsettled mood is best expressed by a series of provocative as the nation struggles to redefine itself

## Since Collapse of Soviet Union, Many Ask: 'How Will It All End?' MOSCOW — Russia is in search of a 'national idea' that can define its essence and inspire its citizens. But so far the struggle for a post-Soviet identity has a concept, slogan or sound bite to have a concept should be a concept.

It turned out the questions were advertisements for a magazine promotion, Russia's new national anthem has no nationwide debate and been denounced but by then they had already led to a words because nobody can agree on by trate politicians, who apparently feared

they were hitting too close to the mark. Disputes over the nature of the Russian soul have dominated Russian life for

But the question of Russia's national

mobilize the public and counter the Communists, who, while a minority, at least have an ideology to attract their faithful.

Russia Faces Identity Crisis as It Gropes for a 'National Idea'

But if the Kremlin has a compelling vision of what lies at the end of Russia's long, hard road from socialism, it has not convinced ordinary Russians.

The task has proved so elusive that a purpose has acquired a fresh urgency idea" soon became a national joke. Georgi Satarov, the panel's chairman

the journey is the destination. As Mr. Satarov put it in August: "It is not just also the process of finding it.

This is not to say that Russia is without a rough sense of direction. Few expect Russia to go back to the old Soviet days of a planned economy, repression and a one-party Communist state.

The Russian Onhodox Church has recommission President Boris Yeltsin cre- emerged as a power in Russian society ated last year to produce the "national" and a semiofficial organization. Nationalism and Slavic pride are important factors in the nation's political life. But none of this seems to add up to a vision for the new Russian state. Religion and eth-

nicity are not a sufficient foundation because Russia has 20 ethnic republics dominated by Tartars, Muslims and others.

Nationalism only goes so far. Russia used to find glory in ruling a vast empire and dominating its neighbors. But Russian imperialism is not only politically incorrect, it is beyond the means of the financially troubled state.

And the Yeltsin government's pro-capitalist economic views are too murky

to serve as a rallying cry.
Boris Nemtsov, Mr. Yeltsin's reformminded deputy, has called for a crusade to build a "people's capitalism" and break the grip of the small clique of bankers and financiers on the Russian economy. For a while, pundits speculated that this crusade might become the long-sought national idea.

But Mr. Yeltsin has reshuffled personnel and policies so much - like his abrupt dismissal of the cabinet last week - that nobody is quite sure whether he is determined to challenge the oligarchy or protect it. And since everyone from reformers to corrupt businessmen claim they are building "capitalism," the term has almost lost its meaning.

"Ordinary Russians do not understand what it means," said Tatiana Tolstaya, one of Russia's most notable contemporary writers. "What they see are the rich seizing power. They have a fatalistic approach and hate everyone in power.'

The lack of a unifying vision and the decentralization of power toward Russia's far-flung regions have eroded any sense of common identity.

According to a recent study by Jerry Hough of Duke University, the number of young ethnic Russians who think of Russia as their motherland is declining. A growing, though still not dominant, group now defines a province or local region as its homeland.

In the absence of a clear national vision, much of the struggle over Russia's purpose has been fought over heraldry, banners and monuments.

According to the Russian Constitution, the nation's anthem, symbol and flag must be approved by the Parliament. But the Communists who dominate the Parliament do not want Russia's white, blue and red flag. They do not want the new anthem

with its music by Glinka. And they do not want the two-headed eagle, which hails from Russia's prerevolutionary past. They want the old Soviet anthem, the red flag and the hammer and sickle.

Even though the symbols of the new Russian state have never received the legislature's blessing, the Yeltsin government uses them anyway, as do many Russians.

Not that they do not require some instruction. When Moscow celebrated its 850th anniversary last September, the police went around rehanging some of the Russian flags that bedecked the city. Some Muscovites, unaware that the white stripe is supposed to be at the top, had hung the flag upside down.

Even the authorities have made gross island in the northern White Sea, it showed the monastery without crosses and cupolas, as it was during Soviet times when it served as one of Stalin's most notorious prisons. Instead of celebrating religion, Russia's most important financial institution inadvertently commemorated the Gulag.

Since nobody can agree on what the surprising that they cannot agree on what to do with the old ones.

Lenin's embalmed body remains on evangelical groups vowed Tuesday to display in Red Square because Russians cannot decide whether the founder of the Soviet state should be removed from his place of honor and buried. Russians did. however, rebuff a proposal by the grandson of one of the former Communist leader to take Lenin's corpse on a world

Virtually every city and town has a statue of Lenin. It has been easier to leave them in place than to fight over whether they should be taken down.

removed, the authorities have sometimes been loath to destroy them. One of the most vivid images of the fall of the Soviet state came when a giant crane rumbled to the entrance of the KGB headquarters and hauled away the statue of Felix Dzerzhinsky, the first head of the Soviet secret police. That statue, however, was not destroyed. It was moved to a less conspicuous location behind the Central House united — 'Get rich to survive!'

## Romania Seeking New Prime Minister

BUCHAREST - Romania was searching for a new prime minister Tuesday after Victor Ciorbea resigned to end a prolonged political crisis.

Commentators welcomed Mr. Ciorbea's announcement Monday that he would quit to resolve three months of turmoil in his governing coalition over how to tackle Bucharest's economic woes.

'Honest but lacking experience, Ciorbea lacked the strength to take on his political backers when they steered him down the wrong path," said the popular daily newspaper Evenimentul Zilei.

President Emil Constantinescu is expected to name a new prime minister Thursday after consultations with party leaders. He has named Interior Minister Gavril Dejeu as interim prime minister. (AFP)

## Early Armenia Vote Favors Kocharyan

YEREVAN, Armenia — Prime Minister Robert Kocharyan appeared to be far ahead of his former Communist opponent in Armenia's presidential elections, according to returns Tuesday.

With 28 percent of the ballots counted, Mr. Kocharyan had 62 per-cent of the vote and Karen Demirchyan had 38 percent, the Cen-Election ' Commission announced.

Turnout in Monday's runoff vote was about 50 percent, compared with 65 percent in the first round earlier this month, said the election commission's chairman, Khachatour Bezirjian.

Mr. Kocharyan, 43, has been in power for a year. He led the independence movement in Nagomo-Karabakh, a mostly ethnic Armenian enclave inside neighboring Azerbaijan, in 1988, and then served as president of the rebel region before becoming Armenia's prime minister last year.

#### Communists Lead In Ukraine Election

KIEV - Partial results Tuesday from Ukraine's parliamentary election confirmed a strong showing by the Communists, who have tapped into the country's economic discontent to win more than a quarter of the votes

With more than half the vote counted, two other anti-government parties were also looking strong, while three or four more-moderate groups also appeared likely to win seats in Parliament.

The preliminary results pointed to a Parliament led, but not controlled, by hard-liners and suggested that the standoff between President Leonid Kuchma and the legislature was likely to continue. There are 450 seats to be filled in

Parliament With ballots counted from 123 of Ukraine's 225 electoral districts, the Communist Party received 25.8 percent of the party vote, the Central Election Commission said. (AP)

of Artists near Gorky Park in Moscow. Undeterred by the politicians' failure to define a national vision, Russian

ernment-owned newspaper, awarded a prize to an official from Vologda, a town north of Moscow, for his proposal. He received 5 million rubles - about \$830 for recommending that the national. idea be found in "the concern for the Fatherland" and the rejection of the money-oriented mentality of the

"For some it is, 'Get rich!' For others, 'Survive!' For many the two slogans are

## questions that mysteriously began appearing last year on billboards and trolley after the collapse of the Soviet empire, which provided so much of its commission's failure to articulate an **HUSTLE:** Making Money With Energy

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#### Continued from Page 1

to Mr. Gorbachev during the early years of perestroika, or restructuring. Mr. Kiriyenko arrived at the Moscow school within weeks of the failed coup against Mr. Gorbachev that summer and just months before the Soviet col-

At the academy, Mr. Kiriyenko, who was the youngest in his class, was told that only the most creative businessmen would survive. Oleg Protsenko, a professor who was then director of the management program, recalled, "We told students not to wait for any solution from the top, but to find an original solu- of the Nizhni Novgorod region who

Banking was one of the first sectors to be liberalized, and Mr. Kiriyenko wrote Moscow academy, Mr. Kiriyenko and

a monograph on how Russian banks could navigate the rough waters of the transition to a market economy. Hundreds of banks were throwing open their doors, many with dubious balance sheets.

In his tract, finished in 1993, Mr. Kiriyenko dis-

played a grasp of the no-holds-barred 1996 interview. character of the nascent Russian market economy. He wrote that the main job for commercial banks in Russia was to build up capital using "any possible ways and methods." He wrote that banks would macaroni. But that sort of exchange is have to be able to transfer resources to "offshore zones," which they did. He also foresaw that banking and politics were inexorably intertwined. "The most important task of commercial banks." he wrote, "is lobbying at all the levels of

Separately, Mr. Kiriyenko had taken another path characteristic of the new generation of Russian capitalists - the Komsomol, the youth league that long had been a training ground for the Com-munist Party. Mr. Kiriyenko was a Komsomol leader at the Krasnoye Sormovo shipyard in Gorky, a big submarinebuilding base. In the Gorbachev years, the Komsomol was an invaluable passage to the world of business.

"Komsomol became a beehive of activity," said Steven Solnick, a professor businessmen are puzzling over what at Columbia University and author of kind of prime minister Mr. Kiriyenko said, "Stealing the State," a book chronicling

For Vichy Street,

Turn Far Right

ated with the Nazis.

Agence France-Presse

MONTPELLIER, France - To

protest political alliances with the

far right, councillors in this southern

city have decided to name a street

the Rue de Vichy after the World

War II government that collabor-

The city council voted Monday

night to give the controversial name

to a new street that runs in front of

the regional assembly, which is headed by a politician who won the

job because of the support of the

The assembly leader is Jacques

Blanc of the center-right Union for French Democracy. He is one of

five conservatives who this month

defied party orders and made deals

with the National Front, triggering a

The city council is led by Mr. Blanc's rival for the regional pres-

idency, Georges Freches, a Social-

extremist National Front.

countrywide furor.

the demise of the Komsomol, "It served as a business school for the late 1980s generation of top bankers and finan-

"Under Gorbachev, there were two economies, a controlled and a liberalized economy," he continued. "Prices were state-set in one part, and not in the other. If you as a smart Soviet citizen could figure out how to move goods, money or services from the controlled sector to the liberalized sector, where you could sell it expensive, you cleaned up on the

In politics, Mr. Kiriyenko was an ally of Boris Nemtsov, the young governor turned it into an early incubator for mar-

> others founded Bank Garantiya, which was closely tied to federal and local pension funds. The bank's emphasis was helping the pension funds cope at a time when nonpayments were growing and chaos gripped the economy. Mr. Kiriyenko said in a

For example, he said, Russia increasingly was dominated by barter trade, in which companies exchanged goods instead of money, such as natural gas for impossible for pension funds, he said.
So the bank's experts turned to the

technique called arbitrage. For example, they could transform one company's oil surplus into pension benefits. "A pension fund can't get oil and sell it." he said. "We find partners to buy the oil, find a way to refine the oil, and sell it." sometimes abroad.

Mr. Kiriyenko went on to become head of an oil company, and came to Moscow last May to be deputy energy minister under his old friend Mr. Nemtsov, who was first deputy prime minister. Last week, Mr. Yeltsin installed Mr. Kiriyenko as acting prime minister after abruptly firing Mr. abruptly Chernomyrdin.

Sergei Kiriyenko in Moscow on Tuesday after meeting with Communists in the Parliament. The Communists, who dominate Parliament are resisting a vote on Mr. Kiriyenko's nomination as prime minister. was not ashamed of his Komsornol years "We should stop using such categories mistakes. When the Central Bank first

Moscow financiers, politicians and only later that I understood it is im-

amount of profit that we made as a measure of how a company is working."

kind of prime minister Mr. Kiriyenko Today, Mr. Kiriyenko said, he would "I love money," he added, "exwill be if confirmed. He said last week he like to dump the tired rhetoric of the past. tremely professionally."

Today, Mr. Kiriyenko said, he would

and that he admired some of the utopian ideals of communism, although "it was output," he said. "Let us speak about the ancient Solovetsky monastery on an

## Russia Is Said to Rule Out Veto Of UN Sanctions on Yugoslavia

MOSCOW - Russia will not veto a UN security council resolution on the of sanctions against Yugoslavia over its role in Kosovo, the Interfax press agency cited Foreign Ministry sources as saying Tuesday.

The Security Council was expected to vote Tuesday or Wednesday on a draft resolution drawn up by Britain imposing an arms embargo against Yugoslavia in response to repression of the ethnic-Albanian majority in Kosovo Province. On Monday, the Yugoslav Parliament

appealed to a visiting Russian delegation for Moscow to veto the resolution. Interfax reported that Russia, a traditional ally of its fellow Orthodox Slavs, had asked for "some time" to

give its verdict on the draft resolution. According to U.S. officials, Russian objections to the first draft have caused the resolution to be watered down. It now is expected to ban imports of weapons to Yugoslavia but not to im-

pose a ban on equipment used for internal repression.

In the last month, more than 80 people have been killed in a security crackdown on several ethnic-Albanian villages in Kosovo that Belgrade says were bases of an armed separatist group calling itself the Kosovo Liberation Army. The region remains tense and un-

stable. The Yugoslavian authorities and the ethnic Albanians are being asked to open talks on the future status of the province. which had its autonomy removed in nity." 1989 by Slobodan Milosevic, who was

then the president of Serbia. Last week, the foreign ministers of the United States, Britain, France, Russia, Germany and Italy agreed in Bonn to set a Tuesday deadline for the council to approve a weapons ban in response to the Serbian crackdown in Kosovo.

Yugoslavia has sought to block independence for Kosovo and refused to restore its autonomy.

## Christian Groups Vow To Halt Work in Israel new symbols should be, it is hardly

Agence France-Presse JERUSALEM — Fifty Christian

halt missionary work in Israel in a bid to avoid legislation imposing criminal penalties for proselytizing in the Jewish The Christian groups released a joint

belief in God's covenant with the Jews and promising to avoid "activities which have as their intention to alienate them from their tradition and commu-As a result of the statement, Nissim Zvili, a Labor member of Parliament,

announced that he was withdrawing his sponsorship of an anti-proselytizing Bill. The bill, cosponsored by Moshe Gafni of the ultra-Orthodox United Torah Judaism Party, would impose a one-year prison term for "unlawfully holding. printing, copying, spreading, distribut-ing or importing material which has an

statement, to be formally issued at a meeting Wednesday, reaffirming their tour and use it to make a quick buck.

And when Soviet symbols have been

## newspapers have jumped into the fray. Last year, Rossiskaya Gazeta, a gov-

West.' Nezavisimaya Gazeta, a paper owned

by Boris Berezovsky, an influential tycoon, was more cynical and closer to the hearts of many Russians.

Its editor, Vitali Tretyakov, wrote:

## PAPON: French War Crimes Trial Nears an End for This Old Man, This Token

## Continued from Page 1

shield, taking notes or listening, chin in his hand. Only rarely did he betray terrand in the 1981 elections. emotion, and it was never interpreted as regret or contrition.

right after the liberation of France. He wound up in the courtroom in Bordeaux largely for reasons of longevity. His wartime boss in Bordeaux is dead, as are all the higher-ups in the collaborationist government

defeat by German forces. that Mr. Papon was targeted as a potential war crimes suspect in the first nothing of the extermination camps or place, in 1981, because of the notable the fate of the deportees and that he public career that followed his warpublic caree in Bordeaux from 1942 in some cases personally intervening to 1944, when he was in his early 30s. to save Jews. After the war, he was promoted rapidly in the civil service, eventually rising to become Paris police chief

during most of the turbulent 1960s. At the time of his outing, he was purget munister in the government of the picture of what Mr. Papon did and President Valery Giscard d'Estaing. budget minister in the government of President Valery Giscard a estaing.

President Valery Giscard a estaing.

did not do as secretary-general of the of the nation implied in the judicial into silence.

Mr. Mitterrand's personal intervention for Mr. Papon delayed his questions," the Nazi-ordered

Mr. Papon is only the second trial for many of the 16 years before Frenchman to stand trial for war the proceedings opened here in Octiones since the kangaroo-court tober. Mr. Mitterrand, too, had served French purges of Nazi collaborators as a minor Vichy official before he joined the Resistance. To the general charge that Mr. Papon signed deportation orders that

carried French Jews, including 223 children, to their fate under the Nazi "final solution," Mr. Varaut's dethat was established in the spa of fense team has argued that Mr. Papon Vichy after the humiliating French was merely executing the orders of his The defense charged repeatedly to pressures and commands origin-

Some witnesses, former Resistance officials and historians, asserted that Mr. Papon quietly served the underground movement by passing along information. The trial has, if anything, clouded

actions, motivations and personal recrimes. Sensing the jury's and the public's taught them little new about France's gnawing sympathy for Mr. Papon, wartime past, even one of the most vociferous law-Mr. Papon

While contemporary witnesses are

testimony in Bordeaux has given jur-

apartheid regime for Jews.

circumstances. Some of his fellowlawyers were outraged. The trial has been amply covered in the French media, occasioning soulsearching and debates about culpa-bility for the deportation of more than Paris in 1961, Mr. Papon exploded. 75,000 Jews from occupied France.

A rightist political leader com-

plained about the "self-flagellation"

the French muckraking paper Le Ca-nard Enchaine, came only days before Mr. Giscard's defeat by Francois Mit-defeat by Francois Mit-administration of this southwestern resident Jacques Chirac and Prime province. The job included supervi-Minister Lionel Jospin have spoken about the necessity of acknowledging French complicity in the genocide of Documentary evidence from the "Yes, there were arrests, roundups, period is ambiguous or conflicting. convoys organized with the concur-

rence of the French administration."

element of proselytizing."

virtually nonexistent, the parade of Mr. Chirac admitted in December. "This should be said and underors room for doubt about Mr. Papon's stood." In a poli taken last week, 83 percent sponsibility for what sometimes were of the respondents said they had folcalled "state crimes" or "collective lowed the Papon trial in the news media and 82 percent said it had

Mr. Papon has been a silent presyers representing the families of the ence behind his shield and a sturdy victims, Amo Klarsfeld, suggested witness when on the stand, but somethat a sentence short of life impris- times his indignation erupted.

onment was "equitable" under the When a lawyer for one of the civil parties to the prosecution described the career pattern of Mr. Papon's moral "indifference," including his responsibility for alleged police killings of

> "You are a liar!" he cried. The presiding judge, Jean-Louis Castagnede, had to shout Mr. Papon

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# Albright Stresses Gains Of Ross's Mideast Trip

State Madeleine Albright said Tuesday have to make very clear that there is a that there had been "some progress" in U.S.-led efforts to revive Middle East Middle East because the stalemate has peace talks but no major breakthrough

Ross, the U.S. special envoy, Mrs. Albright said "there has been some pro- the talks as "dire." gress' in breaking a stalemate in peace In Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin efforts. "Obviously we are concerned Netanyahu shrugged off U.S. assesspeace process," she said.

"We have been working very hard to try to bridge the gap between the two parties," Mrs. Albright said of efforts to the most in the West Bank, said he was find a compromise between Israeli and not worried that Washington would be the compromise between Israeli and not worried that Washington would be the compromise between Israeli and not worried that Washington would be the compromise between the two parties. Palestinian positions.

Noting that Mr. Ross had presented both sides with "some ideas" to break the stalemate, Mrs. Albright said: 'There has been some progress as a result of his most recent trip, but really it's not nearly enough, I think, for us to show from his five-day trip. say there has been a breakthrough.

## **ISRAEL:** Divided by TV Series

Continued from Page 1

of the revival of the Jewish nation in the Holy Land.

For traditional Israeli historians and critics of the series - the narrative if we indeed have a bridge," Mr. Netof Israel's founding is this: Idealistic Jewish pioneers settled a wide-open land called Palestine that was sparsely populated with Arab natives. The Jews came to live peacefully with the Arabs and to tougher Palestinian measures to curb enhance the quality of life for all. They believed in compromise but were confronted with Arab aggression and were forced to fight back.

During Israel's War of Independence in 1948, Arabs left their villages in Palestine at the urging of the region's Arab leaders, who promised they would be able to return after Israel was destroyed. But the Jews won the war for their homeland against the Arab armies.

That is the version taught in Israeli schools and the one most Israelis be-

But a group of "new historians" has taken a skeptical look at that traditional Zionist view and begun shattering what it calls "the myths" of the founding of the state. The new historians say they portray Israeli heroes such as Prime Ministers David Ben-Gurion and Golda Meir as human beings who made mistakes as well as history.

The new historians accuse the founders of having failed to do enough to save European Jews during the Holocaust of World War II. They argue that Israel passed up opportunities for negotiations with Arab states and evicted hundreds of thousands of Palestinians from their villages during the 1948 war. ernments last year adopted a Stability return and retaliated "in kind" for terrorist attacks in the 1950s.

The controversial segments of the television series, which begins in 1936 with a wave of Jewish settlement in jacket. "Sound public finances are an British-ruled Palestine and ends with the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin by a Jewish law student in 1995. adopt many of the views of the new historians that critics have branded 'post-Zionism'

The series accuses Israel's European, or Ashkenazi, majority, of having mistreated Middle Eastern immigrants, known as Sephardim.

It accepts matter-of-factly that about 700,000 Palestinians fled Palestine out of fear or under military threat during the 1948 war. This goes far beyond other mainstream accounts of history.

While officials such as Mrs. Livnat count of history as destructive, the series producer, Gideon Drori, defends it as a was to create the economic conditions healthy step forward for a secure and mature society.

"Criticism can be judged by the results it yields," Mr. Drori told the weekly newspaper Kol Hair. "In my opinion, this is constructive criticism. What is destructive about a society which is examining itself and asking questions? That weakens us? In my opinion, it strengthens. We are not less patriotic Israelis than those people who have trouble looking at themselves."

The series includes footage never before aired on Israeli television of Palestinians who remained in Israel after the isters from the 11 countries that were war surrendering their weapons to Jewish soldiers and of Arab schoolchildren dancing in the formation of a Star of sels on May 2 would need to meet David, waving Israeli flags on Inde-

cleanliness. Already the \$2 million trade

in U.S. radish seeds here has virtually

the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, said that

U.S. beef exports dropped by \$300 mil-

lion in the nine months following the

1996 outbreak as people suspected,

without any basis, that American beef

rebounded but that now the radish seed

"Consumers here are deeply suspi-

trade had "stopped cold."

evaporated.

"Obviously it is important that there WASHINGTON - Secretary of has been some movement but we also level of frustration both here and in the gone on," she said.

ad been achieved. Her comments, after speaking with Commenting on a just-completed dipMr. Ross to obtain his assessment, conlomatic mission to the region by Dennis trasted with a statement by her spokesman Monday that described the state of

about the fact that for a year now there ments Tuesday that Middle East peace has been a stalemate on the Middle East moves were in "dire straits," insisting that he had not sent Mr. Ross home empty-handed.

up the heat on Israel over a West Bank troop puliback.

"We didn't send him empty-handed and he didn't leave empty-handed," Mr. Netanyahu said when asked why he had sent Mr. Ross home with nothing to

"We gave each other some good ideas, what I would call bridging proposals," he said during a visit to the Ma'ale Adumim settlement east of Je-

He declined to elaborate, saying only that the proposals had been both "serious" and "creative" and that he estimated that talks over a package of U.S. ideas to advance peace moves would

"If we meet again, we'll be able to see

The U.S. proposals reportedly call for Israel to withdraw from another 13.1 percent of the West Bank in return for guerrilla violence. Israel has called the 13.1 percent fig-

ure unacceptable and insisted that the U.S. proposals lay out a detailed road map for Palestinian steps on security in parallel with a phased Israeli troop withdrawal. "We're no suckers," Mr. Netanyahu said. "We don't give without receiving.

We want to receive something real in Mr. Ross has warned of diminishing

hopes for peace after failing to advance U.S. ideas to end a yearlong peacemaking deadlock.

Continued from Page 1

Helmut Schlesinger, a former president of the Bundesbank, called Italy's

debt-reduction program "a hugely ambitious task." Germany, he said, had

great difficulty trimming its debt even by

At Germany's insistence, EU gov-

large fines for countries within the euro

should not be seen as a permanent strait-

but intelligent application of the stability

pact should go hand in hand with an expanded role for the EU Council of

The restoration of public finances

has been carried out not as an end in itself

velopment," Mr. Ciampi said, "Who

but to create the preconditions for de-

make sure the boat is watertight."

compete successfully and create jobs.

France's finance minister, Dominique

Strauss-Kahn, who said Italy had achieved a "remarkable and sustain-

able" economic recovery. "I am not

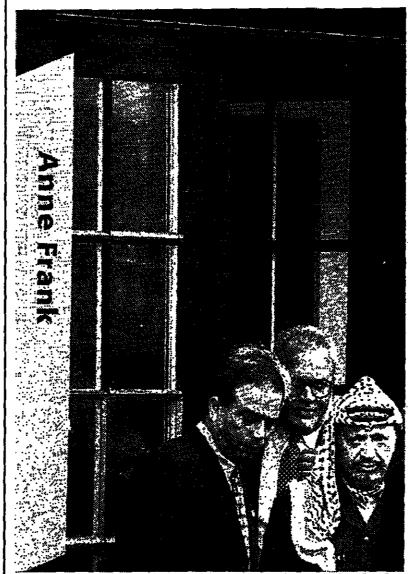
worried about the debt," he said. "Italy

Mr. Ciampi was supported by

of GDP to meet the debt goal.

the slightest amount.

nomic policies.



Mr. Arafat, right, emerging Tuesday from the Anne Frank House.

## **Arafat Visits the Anne Frank House**

The Associated Press

AMSTERDAM — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat paid a private visit to the Anne Frank House museum Tuesday, saying that he wanted to learn firsthand about the suffering of the young Jewish diarist and her family.

"I want to see for myself the reality of the facts about what they suffered, Mr. Arafat said before a visit to the

The foundation that runs the museum said it had no objection to Mr. Arafat's visit.

EMU: Italy Defends Sustainability of Return to Economic Health

Mr. Schlesinger warned against any

political actions that could be seen as

impinging on the independence of the

European Central Bank, which is due to

start operations by July 1 at the latest.

Particularly, he warned against any at-

tempt to use exchange rates — "even purely verbal propaganda" — as an

An American economist, Fred

euro's exchange rate as the United States

had done with the dollar, which he said

rency swings, such as target zones for

Mr. Bergsten predicted that the euro

would within a few years rival the dollar

ripples in world trade.

nstrument of foreign-trade policy.

The narrow canalside house was fenced off for Mr. Arafat's visit. Large House.

Bergsten, director of the Institute for was better placed to attract investment

concerned on the other hand that the trillion debt increasing by \$250 billion a

While he was not advocating fixed down "substantially." It was this prosexchange rates, Mr. Bergsten said, the pect that risked touching off extreme

up mechanisms to avoid excessive cur- difficulties for European exporters.

crowds cheered as the Palestinian leader entered the house flanked by aides. There were no protests outside the

museum, but a group representing Dutch Jews and families of World War II Resistance workers reacted angrily to the visit. Wim Kortenoeven of the Nether-

lands Israel Public Affairs Committee said "this is no more than a cheap publicity stunt that desecrates the memory of the Jewish victims of the Holocaust'

The Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center welcomed Mr. Arafat's visit to the Anne Frank

accounting for 40 percent of world trade.

"I predict the euro will move up along-

side the dollar in a bipolar rather than a

would create a formidable economic and

financial counterweight to the United

States, with a higher economic output

and a considerably larger share of for-

eign trade. In addition, he said, Europe

Mr. Bergsten said the euro would

probably start 15 percent to 20 percent

undervalued, and he added that it was

clear to him that the price of the dollar

against the euro would have to come

market volatility, he said, and creating

The EU does not have a policy on

exchange rates. EU leaders have said

that the first task of the European Central

Bank will be to ensure price stability

Mr. Bergsten predicted the euro

dollar-centered system," he said.

## they cannot afford the bills and should be

provide free education to the poor has been a heated debate. Many students say helped because apartheid left their parents penniless and allocated far less for blacks' education than for that of whites. Indeed, universities like this one, whose enrollment is still almost all black, were set up as second-rate schools.

But some say the protesters are pampered and that by giving in, the universities are helping to foster the very habits of nonpayment that could bank-

During the 1970s and 1980s, the African National Congress encouraged South Africans to refuse to pay rent, water and electricity bills as a weapon against local governments during the fight to end apartheid. But the habit did

## Scores of Militants Killed in Algeria

The Associated Press

ALGIERS - More than 100 Islamic militants have been killed over the last week in army raids on mountain hideouts south of Algiers, the daily La Tribune reported Tuesday.

The raids, which included air strikes, killed 80 people on Thursday in the locality of Oued Besnes, west of the capital, the newspaper reported.

La Tribune said three militant leaders were captured alive by the security forces during the sweep, which it said was expected to last until the end of this week.

Previous press reports had put the death toll from the army raids in the Ouarsenis Mountains at 65. There was no official confirma-

tion of the operation. On Monday, the Algerian government rejected a proposal for a UN inquiry into the violence.

areas of wage and social policy to

against the backdrop of high unemploy-

In the end, the same somber register

participants' ability to conform to the

economic standards it says are needed to

meeting the criteria, and the less they can

during basis," the bank says, "then the

greater are the risks to economic growth

in monetary union, and the less the ex-

pectations that are placed in monetary union can be fulfilled."

be regarded as safeguarded on an en-

"The greater the shortcomings in

assure EMU's success.

"What is indispensable, and precisely

achieve progress in jobs and earnings.

In South Africa, Debt-Laden Schools Get Tough not go away when the first black national government was elected in 1994.

Officials at the University of Western BELLVILLE, South Africa - It has Cape said they took their tough stand this year because they had to. become an annual ritual at virtually all of

University Lesson No. 1:

By Suzanne Daley

New York Times Service

the universities once set aside for blacks

under apartheid. With the start of the

academic year each February come the

student demonstrations. Campuses are

vandalized, hostages taken, tires burned

in the streets and officials blocked from

The reason for the turmoil is always the

register at the cash-strapped colleges, ad-

ministrators try to turn away those who

have not paid their bills. But usually, in the face of angry students, they cave in.

It has been such a regular dance for the

last few years that the clashes hardly

make headlines, though the schools'

stood fast: No money, no classes. In the standoff that followed, several

locked out of the dormitories. They

spent the night in a field beside the

"You just feel as if your dignity is completely gone," said Sparks Jama, 22, who is studying law and owes about

\$4,500. "The police was there and dogs. It was very cold."

Whether the government should

their offices.

Pay Your Bills or Get Out

"In the past most of us said, 'Ach. le it go,' and that's created the trouble. said Cecil Abrahams, rector and vice chancellor of the university and chair-man of the Historically Disadvantaged Institutions Forum, an association of the 10 colleges created in the 1960s for black and mixed-race students. "This same. As cash-strapped students try to year we said: 'We are not getting anywhere. If we continue along these lines, we will collapse. We are helping to destroy these places by not being fiscally responsible.

Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu says it is about time the universities realized that the government will not bail them out. The nation's public universities are owed more than \$100 million.

debts are crushing.

But this year the University of West-Tuition at the formerly black colleges. ern Cape — owed more than \$10 million — decided that enough was enough. With more than half of its 14,000 stualready heavily subsidized by govern-ment, is \$700 to \$1,100 a year, about half that of the more prestigious and acadents behind on payments, the university demically rigorous formerly white schools like the University of Cape Town or Stellenbosch University. hundred students were arrested and

The standoff here ended with the students accepting a tough fiscal plan demanding debt payments, a deposit for this year and the right to kick out de-

#### BRIEFLY

## French Link Is Seen

PARIS - The missiles that brought down a French plane carrying the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi — sparking the Rwandan genocide in 1994 -came from French armories, Le Figaro

newspaper said Tuesday.

President Juvenal Habyarimana of
Rwanda and President Cyprien
Ntaryamira of Burundi died when at least one of two ground-to-air missiles hit their executive jet as it approached igali, Rwanda, on April 6, 1994.

Blame has never been officially apportioned. Le Figaro said the missiles, Russian-made SAM-16s, were captured by French troops from Iraq during the Gulf War. (Reuters)

## Israel Says It Wants To Leave Lebanon

JERUSALEM — Hoping to signal that it means business, the Israeli cabinet will adopt a United Nations resolution this week calling for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, a senior aide to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Tuesday.

"It is important to make our intentions clear," Mr. Netanyahu said. "We want to leave Lebanon and we want the government of Lebanon to enter south Lebanon and take charge.'

David Bar-Ilan, a senior aide to Mr. Netanyahu, said that 11 of the 18 ministers, members of the so-called Security Cabinet, are to meet Wednesday to vote on UN Resolution 425, which was adopted in 1978 and which calls for a unilateral Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

## Saudis Finish Inquiry On Dhahran Bombing

WASHINGTON - The Saudi Arabian government said Monday that it had completed its investigation into the terrorist bombing in June 1996, that killed 19 American airmen and wounded 500 others, but would not immediately release the results of the inquiry.

The announcement caught the Clinton administration by surprise and led to new fears that the culprits might never be brought to justice. Officials at the State Department and

the Justice Department said that the American investigation of the bombing of the Khobar Towers, a military housing complex in Dhahran, was far from over and that the terrorists had still not been identified with certainty. (NYT)

## For the Record

Well-armed gang leaders are killing fellow prisoners in Venezuela's overcrowded prisons, where 345 inmates were murdered last year, a government

## CYPRUS: Russia Assures Athens on Arms

Continued from Page 1

pete in a tender in May against a U.S. offer of Patriot missiles.

Mr. Tsohatzopoulos is also due to riots. meet the secretary of Russia's Security Council, Andrei Kokoshin, Foreign Minister Yevgeni Primakov and Acting ognized government on Cypros. Deputy Prime Minister Ivan Rybkin. He also plans to visit several defense

industry institutes and will give a news the negotiating team. He said be would conference Thursday. Cyprus Makes Pitch to Join EU

Cyprus opened its bid to join the European Union, reminding EU foreign ministers that Europe, too, overcame conflict to achieve peace and prosperity, The Associated Press reported from

"The EU accession process will un-Cyprus problem and act as a catalyst for key is always yours."

the reunification of our country," Foreign Minister Yannis Kasoulides of Cyprus said at the opening of talks.

The EU decided in 1995 to proceed

with membership negotiations, even if that means talking only with Greek Cyp-The EU's view is that it is obliged to

deal with the only internationally rec-

The Turkish-Cypriot leader, Rauf Denktash, has rejected all offers to join only do so if his Ankara-backed government is recognized as an equal, threatening otherwise to draw closer to

Turkey's own effort to join in membership negoriations was also rejected Ankara has been making increasingly bostile statements over the snub, and Foreign Minister Ismail Cem of Turkey reminded Turkish Cypriots on Monday doubtedly change the context of the that "the decision to integrate with Tur-

#### He said Europeans would question the EUROPE: Bundesbank's Report Conveys Subtext of Skepticism purpose of monetary union unless it helped reduce high unemployment. But he warned that public spending in favor from the Stability and Growth Pact." Continued from Page 1 and Mr. Sharon see the "Tekuma" ac- of jobs was no longer an option. The task • "In the convergence debate, the of governments now, Mr. Ciampi said, • "A culture of stability cannot be

exchange rates.

zone that failed to keep their public European central bank would conduct a year.

finances in order. Mr. Ciampi said this policy of benign neglect toward the

essential condition for growth," he said, could produce volatility and dangerous

Finance Ministers in conducting eco- United States and Europe will need to set

wants to sail the high seas must first as a global reserve currency, with each

regarded as being assured in all coun-

• "The sharp decline in budget deficits in 1997 is, in some cases, attribcoordination among finance ministers to which Mr. Ciampi referred. He said minexpected to be chosen to join the single currency at a summit meeting in Brusprivately to start preparing their 1999

that would enable private companies to • "All in all, it is becoming evident Overall, in spite of the general apthat the majority of the member states proval given EMU, this is hardly the will not achieve the aim of the Stability and Growth Pact in the medium term.

 "In the case of a fairly large number of member states, the government stripped down their budgets to the point and labor markets.' spending ratio needs to be reduced and raises loans cheaper than Britain. It is as if the euro already is in place."

further radical reforms of the social-security systems need to be undertaken Mr. Strauss-Kahn also said France in order to achieve a sustainable fiscal had pushed for the kind of economic position.

> utable to one-off measures. Additionally, sufficient provision has not yet been made everywhere for the Finland and Luxembourg. foreseeable future burdens. To date, most member states are not sufficiently geared to the future obligations arising

budget policy have frequently and unquickly with the politically sensitive justifiably been neglected."

stuff of an embrace.

where they can "unreservedly be classified as being sustainable," or are likely frames the Bundesbank's view of the to perform to the level needed for the euro to inspire full confidence. Since this group includes Denmark and Britain, both of whom have chosen not to join the euro's first wave, the only three participant countries to inspire the Bundesbank's unqualified backing are Ireland,

All the other countries are not performing up to the bank's notions of longterm compliance with the convergence criteria. Rather than assume they will do so and achieve solid monetary union, the report only offers admonitions such as 'it must not fail after it has been established" and "the economic fundamentals must be right upon entry.

France and Germany are both criticized for their "pronounced expansion-ist tendency" in relation to government systems to Greece and was due to comist tendency" in relation to government States and Japan on this issue follows a debt. France is listed, in addition, as one of those employing one-time measures to make their ratios of deficits to gross domestic product approach the reference level of 3 percent for 1997. As for Italy and Belgium, the Bundesbank surprises no one in underscoring its long-stated reservations about their financial positions and says they cause "serious concern.

In its concluding assessment, the bank's report allows that individual countries "have come a good way" and have achieved "considerable progress." But it says with greater emphasis that the success of EMU has much to do might be to blame. He said it had since have found contaminated seeds from American officials had concerns about with the performance of Europe's real

economies. Here again, the Bundesbank carefully chooses its tone, and it is not inspir-

ا مكذا من الاعل

#### POISON: U.S. Disputes Tokyo's Claim That Seed Caused Illness Continued from Page 1 foods," Mr. Woolsey said. "That's why scientists had not directly linked any it so important to respond quickly with some mused that Japan was using the the facts whenever the safety of U.S. taminated seeds. United States as a scapegoat, products is questioned." Yukio Okamato, a former Japanese According to the U.S. Food and Drug

diplomat, said the emotion around the Administration, scientific facts do not announcement showed "how inflammasupport the Japanese findings. The tory the Japan-U.S. relationship is." agency also said the Japanese had not Japan is America's biggest agricul-tural export market, a trade that is exindicated when and where the bacteria contaminated the seeds, leaving open the tremely sensitive to concerns about food possibility they had been contaminated

after being shipped to Japan.
Also, the U.S. Embassy said Tuesday, Japanese officials came to their con-Mike Woolsey, agriculture attaché at clusion based on a single laboratory's results, while 10 other laboratories, both intestines of animals and humans and Japanese and American, "had similar can contaminate meat and the water supresults that disagreed with that one lab's

Japanese health officials say they Oregon in samples from a Japanese radish sprout producer who provided the vegetable to two victims. But the Food cious about the safety of imported and Drug Administration said Japanese tect people."

victim of poisoning to the allegedly con-The flare-up between the United

lawsuit by Japanese radish sprout growers over similar charges. Financially devastated after government officials suggested that sprouts had caused the poisonings, the Japanese

growers sued the government. Infection with the E. coli 0157:H7 strain causes severe diarrhea and cramps, and in the most extreme cases, kidney failure. The strain is found in the

Mr. Michino, the Japanese Health Ministry official, said he understood that the announcement, but he said Japan was approaching food poisoning season, hot weather, and "we are just trying to pro-

Rather than point to the projections of increased growth in Europe over the debt criterion and its implications for coming years, it insists that Europe deal

Instead, the Bundesbank considers ment," the report says, "is an adthat only five countries have sufficiently equately flexible response of the goods

THE INTERMARKET

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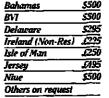
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## **America and Iran**

The United States and Iran are engaged in the delicate business of trying to repair a broken relationship. Reconciliation will not be easy, and may prove impossible if Iran does not end its support of terrorism and its effort to develop nuclear weapons. But the initial signs are promising and should be pursued.

Iran's new president, Mohammed Khatami, and President Bill Clinton have already altered the tone of relations by speaking respectfully of one another's country and culture. Iran has shifted policy by accepting the idea of Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, curbing Iraqi oil smuggling and inviting cuitural exchanges with America. After Iran warmly greeted an American wrestling team in February, Mr. Clinton acknowledged the gesture by receiving

the wrestlers at the White House. These may seem modest steps, but they required a fair degree of courage by both leaders. Mr. Clinton still faces strong opposition in Congress to improved relations and knows that a misstep with Tehran could hand Republicans a foreign policy issue in this year's congressional elections. President Khatami, for his part, must contend with the conservative clerics who still hold supreme authority in Iran and are wary of his leadership in general and his opening to Washington in particular.

Even now he is restrained from opening direct talks with the White House.

The benefits of better relations could be significant for both countries. For America, the military containment and economic isolation of Iraq would be greatly simplified. Mideast peace talks, if they can be revived, would unfold in a less hostile regional environment, and Syria would feel pressure to bargain on realistic terms. Tensions between America and Europe over energy investments in Iran would be defused, and more economical pipeline routes would be feasible for oil and gas from newly developed fields in the Caspian basin.

With an end to American pressure, Iran could obtain cheaper capital to develop its energy resources and the rest of its economy. It could also draw greater profit from its geographic location as the most direct route for oil and gas pipelines from the Caspian to Turkey, Europe and beyond. Better relations with Washington would leave Iran less isolated and vulnerable to Iraq, and better able to exercise its

influence as a regional power. Obstacles remain, but mending relations between America and Iran is worth some work and some risk for Mr. Khatami and Mr Clinton

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## Clogging the Archives

produces in a given day. Then think of the U.S. government, where, by wellestablished law, records must be saved if they have administrative, historical, legal or other significance - and where a series of unambiguous court cases has concluded that e-mail is included in those categories.

How much of the e-mail the govemment generates must be saved, and in what form? The potential volume of data involved makes it easy enough to understand why the National Archives, the agency responsible for saving the stuff, has spent the past six years fighting in court for, essentially, the right to throw more of it out.

Appreciating the Archives' plight, does not mean agreeing that the solution to the knotty problems of electronic archiving is to allow the deletion of huge amounts of disputed government e-mail. Archivist of the United States John Carlin had initially issued a general directive instructing all the agencies to print out any significant portions of their e-mail and delete the rest. But a court threw out that policy five months ago after nonprofit groups brought suit calling for a more specific plan.

The task of coming up with a co-herent policy for all this electronic data which presents technical and storage problems as well as volume problems - is, of course, immense. That has served so far as an invitation to deadlock and paralysis. The Archives have been taken to court repeatedly by outside groups seeking to prevent the destruction of what could be historically significant records — precisely the goal for which the Archives themselves were created. Although it is no novelty for outside groups to press government agencies to carry out the functions they are chartered to perform, the problem in this case seems to be of supplying the will to get through what is essentially a technical, not a policy, bottleneck.

The archiving task presented is nothing short of crushing, but the thing has got to be solved sometime, and it should not have to happen in court. -THE WASHINGTON POST.

## What Is 'Organic'?

Two decades of fights over food labeling and nutrition have suggested at least two laws of behavior. First, Amer- duced-fat" was eventually answered icans have an unquenchable hunger to not just by exhaustive definitions but by know as much as possible about what is — a whole new labeling system in which in their food. Second, once they have percentages of calories, fats and other the information they are remarkably likely to ignore it and eat just what they like. Both tendencies are perfectly well understood by the combatants in the current fight between the Department of Agriculture and food growers who want to call their product "organic."

It is a near perfect echo of the fight over the adjective "light" (or "lite") that raged throughout the 1980s. Like that fight, this one is driven primarily by the existence of consumers who will pay extra for food labeled "organic," and a consequent eagerness by all sorts of producers to grab the word for themselves. But who is entitled to it?

The Agriculture Department last year set out a series of rules attempting to define the word, but the draft was met, predictably enough, by a chorus of complaints from small producers that the definition was so broad that it failed to exclude the bigger agricultural concerns from which the "organic" label was supposed to set them off. Consider, for instance, a meat packager that irradiates its steaks. Some consider this the best way to ensure safe meat; others find it ominous and want to avoid it. Under the proposed rule, irradiated steaks could still be labeled "organic," which annoys the people who want to avoid irradiated meat (for whatever reason) and, more to the point, the no-irradiation specialty farmers who want to

market to those people.

What is needed bere is a lot more than one word's definition can supply, no matter how much logrolling and lobbying goes into that definition's fine

points. The question of what was "light," "low-cholesterol" or "renutrients were presented, cumbersome but transparent, leaving the consumer to work out individual obsessions at whatever level came naturally.

Similarly, the negotiations on what is "organic" should not be allowed to overshadow or legally preempt other, more specific claims by producers that their beef is non-irradiated, their cows are untreated with growth hormone, their fertilizer is not synthetic, or whatever they like. It is all a little unwieldy, but this particular market has not sated its hunger for information, let alone decided which of that information is junk.

-THE WASHINGTON POST.

## Other Comment Parents Have to Choose

Choices must be made between family and work. The first must take priority over the second.

This choice affects women more profoundly than men because women are closer to their children.

If we care about how children are raised in their early years, and if, as is now the case, how they are raised is left to overwhelmed women or institutional arrangements, the only way we can restore the balance is by committing money to the task of inducing actions that were once the product of spontaneous arrangements.

— From "Human Remedies for Social Disorders," by James Q. Wilson, in the spring issue of Responsive Community.

## Herald Eribune

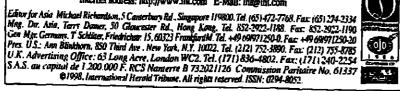
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# The Trouble to Remove in Iraq Is Saddam Himself VASHINGTON — The UN inspectors entered the room in one Saddam Hirecoin to the room in one Saddam Hirecoin t

WASHINGTON — The UN inspectors entered the room in one of Saddam Hussein's "palaces." What was in this room, what was its function? the inspectors asked the Iraqi monitors crowding around them.

"Office of the special security organization," was the answer. Then how come there is not a piece of paper, a document of any kind to be found here? The Iraqis just did not know.

The palaces are great compounds that include offices and warehouses of Saddam's military, weapon-production and security organizations. As part of a deal with UN Secretary-General Kofi An-. nan last month, Saddam gave inspectors permission to enter the compounds barred to them for seven years. Nobody was crude enough to say that under the cease-fire agreement he signed with the Gulf War coalition in 1991 he had no right to keep them out for a day.

Now, in return for his act of grace and pending contracts, he knows that Russia, France, China and the Muslim countries will push hard to lift the sanctions that have blocked his military growth.

I wonder how diplomats kept a straight face during the closed UN Security Council meetings, when they approved the deal that Saddam had worked out with Mr. Annan. It bears the seeds of destruction of the entire inspection system, which uncovered so much of Saddam's weaponry of mass

destruction — but not all.
First, Saddam gets away penaltyfree for having tied up the inspection system since last fall. Bigger: The system is revised to his taste, with a small army of diplomats attached to inspect the professional inspectors.

And, the kicker: When inspectors

finally entered suspect sites, he had had more time than he needed to move out suspicious documents and materials, as he did in that "security" office. It is almost funny, this charade, but

The inspectors had eliminated much of Saddam's chemical, biological and nuclear weaponry and were close to the rest. They were looking mostly for documents - documents that could reveal Iraqi testing of chemical and biological weapons on live humans, lead to missing warheads, disclose orders for chemicals that make the chemicals that make people dead. So foiling inspection by sanitizing sites and attaching non-inspectors to the inspec-

Sometimes inspectors tried to save face for the United Nations by saying, my, how cooperative the Iraqis had become. The truth is that after a few days the Iracis started whittling down even the Annan-Saddam terms. They began skipping appointments, losing keys to locked doors, protesting against taking this picture or that, pushing surveillance so tight that it risks accidents.

The inspectors are the system's only remaining protection. They will not give Saddam the clearance he needs to get sanctions lifted unless he suddenly decides he does not want weapons of dominate the Middle East. mass destruction after all. But he has

pillar of constancy against Saddam. Once again, Saddam, with the help of UN allies like China, Russia and France, has come out way ahead. As in every self-made crisis since the end of the Gulf War, he has gained prestige by suckering the United States.

This time Saddam & Co. made the world concentrate on his campaign against the sanctions instead of on the core issue: that Saddam was and always will be a danger to world peace. He has never forsworn the kind of aggression that brought the Gulf War, never deigned to conceal his plans to

But Saddam's growing power at the

- not inspection, not sanctions, but Saddam. In an article for the Los Angeles Times Syndicate, Henry Kis-

singer put it entirely straight and clear: After all that has passed between Saddam Hussein and the U.S., no deal is conceivable no matter what Saddam does regarding inspection. The depth of this feeling must be understood by foreign leaders pressing for accommodation ... If we cannot negotiate with Saddam we must try to weaken or, if possible, to overthrow him. The outcome of any crisis with Saddam must be viewed in terms of its impact on that objective."

The New York Times.

## The Overriding Goal Is for Unscom to Succeed

ONDON -- As visits to presiden-Lital palaces proceed, there is a growing sense that they could lead to a rapid end of UN sanctions. This is the Iraqis' perspective. But it has also been suggested by their nemesis, Richard Butler, the head of Unscom.

Hopefully, the process will not be-come so politically driven as to give Iraq an undeserved clean slate.

From the beginning, Iraq has resisted full compliance with Unscom's mandate. The latest diplomatic crisis, with its military overtones, which had been simmering since November 1997, in many respects was merely the most recent of Iraq's campaigns to thwart the inspections of Unscorn.

Despite the behavior of the Iracis. the commission's activities had been remarkably successful until recent de-

It has rightly been noted that Unscom has destroyed more Iraqi weapons of mass destruction and missiles than the coalition forces did during the Gulf War. The special commission has significantly reduced Iraq's nuclear and chemical capabilities. It has revealed a biological weapons program of extraordinary scope. The recent crisis may have been provoked because Unscom was closing in on that program.

We must not lose sight of the fundamental issue, that is, the completion of Unscom's disarmament mandate and the strengthening of the norms under which the special commission has tion team were important to Saddam. operated. From this perspective, the

By Joseph F. Pilat and Terence T. Taylor

agreement with Iraq reached by Kofi Annan has some troubling aspects. These are not necessarily fatal flaws.

and one can imagine the agreement working adequately. The way this plays out will depend ultimately on key un-

answered questions.

How will the detailed procedures for the diplomatic overseers be implemented over time? What role will the secretary-general play? Will the diplomats play a decisive role in the inspections? Will there be a rush to judgment on

Iraqi compliance?
The appointment of Ambassador
Iayantha Dhanapala, a highly capable
Sri Lankan diplomat and nonproliferation expert, who will report directly to Mr. Butler, is positive. Mr. Butler's promise that inspections at presidential sites would not be limited to one visit and would involve less notice than the first such visit is also welcome.

On the other hand, remarks of Mr. Butler on the possibility for ending Unscom's work in a year, whatever motivated them, will increase expectations for an early end to sanctions.

Unscom is unique, and it could not be recreated. This was clear long before the recent crisis. Its experience, and the role of the Security Council, can in principle provide elements of a model for dealing with other adversarial cases involving noncompliance with global the International Herald Tribune.

treaties proscribing nuclear, biological and chemical weapoury.

That could also apply to cooperative cases when a state wishes to disarm and to assure the international community

that it is doing so. South Africa's decision to destroy its nuclear weapons was carried out unilaterally. The International Atomic Energy Agency was invited in later to demonstrate to the world that it had indeed disarmed. Some kind of special commission, presumably drawing on aspects of the Unscom model, could have been used to assure the international community that this nuclear weapon program had been dismantled

and the proliferation risks minimized. Should North Korea collapse, South Korea might be in the position of having to assure neigboring states that all NBC and missile programs had ended. It is critical that Unscom complete its mission and that its experience be available to the international commu-

nity as a guide to what is possible. The presidential site visits do not pose a true test of the Annan agreement, and we may expect the political will of the Security Council to be tested time and again in the months ahead. Vigilance is essential. Iraqi behavior may still make resort to force necessary.

The writers, respectively research associate and assistant director at the International Institute for Strategic Studies, contributed this comment to

## For Today's East Asia, Europe Can Be a Friend in Need

roundtable of news editors, in .

Luxembourg last October: co-

organizing with France the first

Asia-Europe Cultural Forum, in

a web site that we will use to

with Britain an ambitious fes-

tival of intellectual, cultural and

Achievements at this week's

• I expect the leaders to issue

artistic events in London.

summit will be significant.

By Tommy Koh

S INGAPORE — Europe has not lost its interest in East Asia. It will prove that it is not a fair-weather friend. It will live up to the maxim that a friend in need is a friend indeed. I expect all 16 European Union leaders to attend the summit meeting

starts on Friday in London. in East Asia cannot erase certain economic trends and developments of the last three decades. East Asia's share of the world economy increased steadily from 9 percent in 1965 to 24 percent in 1993. East Asia has replaced America as the European Union's largest export market. In 1996, the EU exported \$123 billion worth of goods and services to East Asia.

A stable triangle among North America, Western Europe and East Asia will contribute to a more stable and prosperous world.

The first Asia-Europe summit was held two years ago in

Bangkok. What has been cluded convening a first achieved since then? More than 30 meetings. events and projects have taken place. Foreign ministers have initiated a political dialogue. Paris last month; co-organizing with leaders from East Asia that Economic and finance minis- with a German foundation and a ters and trade officials have Singapore think tank the first The recent economic turmoil met. The Asia-Europe Business Asia-Europe Forum, which created new networks between the two regions in several

clusters of industries. Various other meetings have been held, involving universities, science and technology, customs cooperation, the financing of infrastructure projects, environmental technology and television journalism. On Feb. 15, 1997, was born

the Asia-Europe Foundation, based in Singapore. The foundation's aim is to enhance mutual understanding through in-tellectual, cultural, media and people-to-people exchanges. Its projects have already in-

an important statement on the East Asian economic crisis. The statement will reaffirm that Europe has a major stake in the

economies of East Asia. European banks have a combined exposure of \$350 billion, which is greater than those of U.S. and Japanese banks com-

bined. The statement will recall that Europe has been helping the affected economies through its 30 percent share in the IMF, through additional bilateral assistance and through such international organizations as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank.

that the IMF has an indispens-Forum has met twice and has brought together 60 figures able role to play in restoring from the two regions; launching international and domestic confidence, and that the affected twin high schools; co-hosting economies should implement the IMF-prescribed programs of reform and restructuring. However, the role of the IMF should be supplemented by humanitarian aid for people in distress and by export credit to enable commerce to flow.

Finally, European leaders will express their confidence that East Asia will bounce back, and that those economies which implement the necessary reforms and restructuring will emerge stronger and more competitive than before the crisis.

 The summit will adopt two British initiatives: establishment of a trust fund at the World Bank, and creation of a Center on Financial Restructuring. The main purpose of the fund is to assist in assessing the poverty impact of the crisis. The objective of the center is to help countries in their financial restructuring by providing training, advice and consultancy.

• The summit will endorse an investment promotion plan and a trade facilitation plan. At this critical time, Asia needs a new wave of foreign direct investment from Europe. Investment missions from Europe would be very much welcomed.

In the next several years.

Asia's exports to Europe will increase significantly. It is important for Europe to keep its markets open and to combat domestic protectionist pressures.

At the same time, there must be no retreat on the part of Asia from its commitment to trade and investment liberalization. The statement will reaffirm Asian and European leaders should pledge mutual commit ment to strengthen the World Trade Organization.

 The British prime minister is keen to make increased education exchange between Asia and Europe one of the chief concerns of the London summit. Malaysia has proposed establishing an Asia-Europe Center at the University of Malaya. The idea of establishing educational hubs in various countries that would welcome exchange students from the other region is

likely to gather support. Europe has put forward an environmental initiative, linked to the European Commission's humanitarian office. The idea is to launch a program in South-east Asia to help cope with environmental disasters. The first priority will be forest fires.

 The summit will commission a group of wise men and women, known as the Asia-Europe Vision Group, to develop a medium- to long-term vision to help guide Asia-Europe cooperation into the 21st cen-tury. The group will report to the foreign ministers next year and, through them, to the third summit, in 2000 in Seoul.

rector of the Asia-Europe Foundation. He contributed this comment to the International

## IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

## 1898: Spain and Cuba

LONDON - The Daily Telegraph, in a leader on America's threatening. The French, after ultimatum to Spain, says. 'On giving warning, fired a volley the main question of her right over the heads of the workthe main question of her right over Cuba, Spain obviously men. When the workmen hesitates. No one, according to her contention, can interfere in a conflict which she did not provoke and which was solely due to a rebellion on the part of her own subjects." The leader concludes: "The ultimatum is one NEW DELHI The Commuwhich other nations can only take note of in sorrowful and anxious silence.'

## 1923: Ruhr Bloodshed hi, offices of the Communist

ESSEN — By far the most serious bloodshed which has occurred since the French entered the Ruhr took place when a small French detachment went to the V ment went to the Krupp Works been to create chaos and "take French demanded admittance, violent means.

the watchman blew his siren, summoning the workmen, whose attitude rapidly became scattered, six dead and about thirty wounded were lying on the ground.

## 1948: Reds in India

nist party has been banned in the West Bengal Province, and more than 150 arrests were made. In and around New Delparty and certain unions have been raided. These actions were taken on the initiative of local governments. The West Bengal to requisition a garage and advantage of the snapsure some automobiles. When the the country to seize power by advantage of the situation in

## This Isn't the Way to Help Russia Liberal senators confide: "I

NEW YORK — The more the U.S. Senate debates the NATO issue, the more the senators actually focus on it, and the more they ask the central question to which the Clinton team has never given a satisfactory answer: "Why

are we doing this now?" If you ask conservative supporters of NATO expansion, they are at least honest about their ends. They want to expand NATO because they are anti-Russian, and they want to contain Russia every bit as much as they wanted to contain the Soviet Union. For them there is no real difference.

The conservatives believe that the United States won the Cold War and is entitled to reap the fruits, which means expanding NATO all the way from its present borders up to the Russian border, including

contain Russia but to change Russia, so that Moscow could really work with the United States in reducing both countries' nuclear arsenals, stemming weapons proliferation and confronting rogue states.

Cold War would be to have a Russia that cooperates with America on the post-Cold War agenda. That would require investing in Russian democracy. But conservatives sia which is still shaky, but would rather enjoy the psychic prefer to give higher priority pleasure of having the Czechs to consolidating democracy in pleasure of having the Czechs in NATO, rather than the real Hungary, which is solid.

I thought the real fruit of the

By A.M. Rosenthal

advantages that could come from a transformed Russia. Where conservatives are not being straightforward is about their means. They want

NATO to go all the way to the

Baltic-Russian border, but America's European allies are dead against that, because they know that it would be a provocation to Moscow. Conservatives will push ahead with Baltic membership. splitting NATO and triggering a crisis with Russia, or they will leave things where they

are and abandon the Balts after promising them membership.

As for the liberal expansionists, they are dishonest about their ends and their means. NATO expansion is not anti-Russian, they aver. the Baltic states.

Personally, I thought we fought the Cold War not to able NATO to better confront

post-Cold War threats. Oh, really? You mean like Saddam Hussein? He is the epitome of the new post-Cold War threat, and when it came time to confront him, only one NATO ally, Britain, was ready to fight with the United

States. The others sent nurses and gas masks. The liberals also say they care about democracy in Rus-

know this isn't a great idea, so I'll just vote for expanding NATO to Poland, Hungary and the Czechs, and we'll cross the bridge with the othbiggest fallacy of all. NATO expansion is the

equivalent of the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution that authorized the war in Vietnam," says the John Hopkins foreign policy expert Michael Man-"Like that commitment to

Vietnam, if NATO expansion is launched we will be unable to go backward, because we can't expel these countries; unable to go forward, because the Europeans are not ready to expand NATO to the Russian border, and unable to stay where we are, because we have vowed to expand NATO to the Russian border, and not to do so would be to draw a new dividing line in Europe.

Senator Daniel P. Moynihan, who knows a bad idea when he sees one, says the Gulf of Tonkin analogy is apt. Like that resolution, "NATO expansion involves undefined commitments that tie the hands of future presidents."

One can only hope that more senators will see this. If they vote for NATO expansion, there is no bridge to cross later, there is no cost-free rest stop along the way. There is only a car with no brakes on a slippery slope to trouble.

The New York Times.

**OPINION/LETTERS** 

# Himself |

regarding inspection. The depth is feeting must be understood by leaders pressing for accommodified we cannot negotion. if we cannot negotiate with the control we have the control weaken or if the control with t is of any crisis with Saddam must abjective." The Ken York Times

## n to Succeed

tes proscribing nuclear, biological mical weaponry and choird also apply to cooperative a state wishes to disamm and international community desired so.

Africa's decision to destroy its car weapons was carned out un. ally. The International Atomic En Agency was invited in later to the world that a had ed disarmed. Some kind of special ession, presumably drawing on of the Unscom model, could t been used to assure the intermal community that this nuclear the project ation risks minimized sould North Korea collapse. South might be in the position of have \* assure neighboring state, that all and missile programs had ended in critical that Unscom complete is and and that its expensive he was no the international commusa guide to what is possible presidential site visits do no A true hast of the Annual agreemen property Council to be leveling the months and Va te messential. Iraqui recursor and Make resort to force to the

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## Clinton Owes No Apology For Regrets on Slavery

By Richard Cohen

WASHINGTON — Should President Bill Clinton now apologize for apologizing? It seems he should. His remarks about the American role in the slave trade - neither historically inaccurate nor, you would think, all that controversial - have been denounced by no less a personage than a key member of the House Republican leadership, and mocked — nay, scorned — by pundits galore. We Americans are not. I take it, sorry about slavery.

Mr. Clinton's words are worth setting down in their full unremarkableness: "Going back to the time before we were even a nation. European-Americans received the fruits of the slave trade and we were wrong in that."

There it is, a bland statement of

And yet, the august minority whip of the U.S. House of Rep-resentatives, Thomas DeLay, Republican of Texas, blasted the president for what he said in Africa.

"Here is a flower child with gray hair doing exactly what he did back in the '60s,' Mr. DeLay said, referring to Mr. Clinton's anti-war activities. "He is apologizing for the actions of the U.S."

Well, not exactly. Mr. Clinton United States, although he certainly could have. Slavery, after all, was not ended until the capitulation of the Confederacy. Until then, it was legal in Mr. DeLay's home state for one human being to own another, and to sell his or her children.

Mr. DeLay further objected that Mr. Clinton had said nothing about the role of Africans, such as "the chieftains in Uganda," who were "selling blacks to the slave traders.

While we're mentioning Ug-anda we should also mention Mr. DeLay's observation that Mr. Clinton said nothing about Idi Amin, the onetime Ugandan dictator who, Mr. DeLay said, killed 500,000 people.

Mr. DeLay was hardly the only person on the right to be so

Patrick Buchanan also picked many a nit in President Clinton's statement and went on to observe that if it were not for what used to be called the "white man," black Africa would still look like the for saying he is sorry. back lot of a Tarzan movie.

"When Europeans arrived in sub-Sahara Africa, the inhabitants had no machinery and no wrinen language," he wrote in his syndicated column. "When the Europeans departed, most of them by 1960, they left behind power stations, telephones, telegraphs, railroads, mines, plantations, schools, a civil service, a police force and a treasury." Now, with the Europeans gone, much of sub-Saharan

Africa has reverted to chaos. But Mr. Clinton did not, as Mr. DeLay said, "apologize," although he has been asked to do so. All he did, from my reading of what the White House said were extemporaneous remarks, was express regret about slavery. He essentially said he was sorry.

That is not the same as an official apology. Indeed, one is not possible. Our generation of Americans never owned slaves or imported them. How can we apologize for what we have not done?

And yet it seems important for the descendants of slaves - for many of them, anyway - to hear an expression of regret. That, in turn, suggests an appreciation of the fact that history is a process, not an event that happened just Well, not exactly. Mr. Clinton once, and that the consequences of did not say anything about the African slavery are with us still.

Last year, the British prime minister, Tony Blair, acknowledged that process when he expressed regret over Britain's role in the Irish potato famine of the mid-19th century. President Jacques Chirac of France was doing something similar when in 1995 he acknowledged France's role in the deportation and murder of that country's Jews during World War II. An unspeakable crime had been committed, and not only by foreigners.

To apologize or, as Mr. Clinton has done, to express regret is just another way of acknowledging the humanity of the victim: Something awful was done, and the consequences remain.

When it comes to the enslavement of Africans, the expression of regret entails an appreciation of what happened to their culture, to their family structure and to people who were deprived of life. liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It was a shameful period. The president need not apologize

The Washington Post

## Want to Raise Kids From Hell? Here's a How-to Primer

By Donna Britt

ate, in a relatively peaceful society, a nation of youthful killers, or at least just millions of aggressive young jerks.

How could we do it? We would have to start early. Analyzing infants, we would realize their desperate need for love and intimacy. We would also note that a baby's only real job

#### MEANWHILE

is to study, digest and mimic everything he or she encounters.

Then we would go to work. We would create an economy in

which, in most families, both parents needed to work outside the home to survive. Soon after birth, babies would be placed with caregivers who would tend to their basic needs but who, in most cases, would lack the time and interest to invest the same kind of love and attention as parents. Working parents would remain on the

job for ever-increasing hours. Their "free" time at home would be eaten up by bill-paying, cooking, cleaning, helping with homework and finishing tasks uncompleted in the workplace.

Many children would still receive considerable love and attention. To minimize that, we could design, say, an electronic box that beamed seductive, violent images into every dwelling.

programming -- comedy, romance, edu-

W ASHINGTON — Just for laughs, cational shows. But it would also provide fistfights, beatings, rapes and murders.

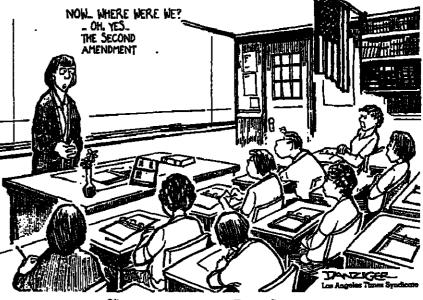
Now a few troublesome kids would realize that such images are fiction. So we would invent "news" shows, highlighting real-life mayhem from local, national and even international sources. The box could also provide "talk shows" in which real people aired their problems before slapping, kicking and otherwise attacking each other as audiences cheered.

But this still might fail to make enough children violent. So what if we invented strikingly realistic visual computer "games"? Children could shoot, impale or beat to death lifelike images of people and monsters. Blood could splatter, tims" could instantly revive to be killed again and again!

Some pesky parents would, of course, limit their children's exposure to the box and the games. To deal with that, we could create public living rooms, com-plete with comfortable chairs and popcorn! Here, children could share with strangers the thrill of experiencing, on gigantic screens and with sophisticated sound systems, vivid moving images of stabbings, garrotings, explosions and dismemberments.

No one killed would be mourned for more than a minute; every death would be as choreographed as a ballet.

Also, in certain parts of the country. rural and urban, we could glorify guns, The box would feature some uplifting make folks think they cannot live without



Classes resume in Jonesboro.

Then we could make it relatively easy for anyone, even children, to get them.
Still not enough? We could do something with music. Kids love music, as anyone who has watched a baby react to a lullaby can attest. We could attach vi-olent, materialistic or overtly sexualized

images to music.

We could even persuade certain musicmakers to celebrate guns, greed and irresponsible sex in their songs! They, too, could provide images for the box - of threatening-looking men and barely dressed women, all singing about the glor-

ies of instant, consequence-free gratification of every urge. To be sure that children got the proviolence message, we adults could pre-

tend to abhor brutishness. Kids are natural

rebels. So we could bemoan violence ceaselessly in the media, and - this is key feign astonishment each time a young-ster assaulted or killed someone.

"How could this happen?" we would wail after each brutality.

With straight faces, we could present shows on the box about "Children Who Kill," write shocked editorials, swear to 'get to the bottom" of the problem. So. If a society actually did those crazy

things, would children - not every child, just way too many of them - behave in frighteningly aggressive ways?

Maybe. But what intelligent culture could be so stupid? Just thinking about the

prospect is scary.
Thank God it's just pretend. The Washington Post.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### On the Middle East

Regarding "Palestinians, Too. Ought to Have Security" (Opinion, March 19) by Wilfrid Knapp;

In describing his visit to Israel, 'Palestine' and the occupied territories, Mr. Knapp indicates his enthusiasm and empathy for Palestinians and his antipathy to and disdain for Israelis.

Palestinians - doctors, teachers, schoolchildren and ordinary workers — possess "enduring dignity"; Israelis are recalled only in the form of the security officer who questioned Mr. Knapp at the airport as part of a standard security procedure.

It is a pity that Mr. Knapp perceives the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians in such a distorted light. Israelis are doctors, teachers, schoolchildren and ordinary workers, too. And they face terror on an all too regular basis.

Mr. Knapp suggests that Israel does not have the right to define for itself effective security measures to protect its people. Every country has that right, especially one that since its birth has been engaged in a fight for survival against enemies bent on its annihilation.

As for the tedious security check that Mr. Knapp underwent at the airport, perhaps he could try to understand why it was necessary. It is obviously a task Israel wishes it did not have to perform. NOAM SCHIMMEL.

Jerusalem.

Regarding Teaches Young Palestinians: Slimy Propaganda" (Opinion, March 7) by Charles Krauthammer:

Continuing disturbances on the West Bank make a mockery of Mr. Krauthammer's absurd claim that 'the occupation is over' simply because most West Bank Arabs live on land run by the Palestinian Authority. Israel still occupies most of the West Bank, and checkpoints allow Israel to control the movement of Palestinians.

Israel is using this domination, based on military force, to continue to colonize the West Bank, to strangle the Palestinian economy and to divide the Palestinians into apartheid-style enclaves, depriving them of any hope for self-deter
Debate" (March 12):

"What Arafat mination. With America ducking its responsibility as guarantor of the Oslo peace accords, the Palestinians have nowhere to turn.

Mr. Krauthammer cites a poll in which 77 percent of Palestinian respondents supported an attack on Israel by Saddam Hussein. He ignores the desperation behind this figure. An even greater majority of Palestinians supported the peace accords before Benjamin Netanyahu took power. EARL GOULD.

Baillargues, France.

Two-Star Fiasco

Regarding "A Multi-Kitchen Chef Settles Simmering French

So Bernard Naegellen, chief of the Michelin restaurant inspectors, thinks that "the customer has become king" in France. I wish it were so. We recently

invited two friends to lunch at a two-star restaurant in Amboise. The price was princely but the food and service were not. The meal turned into a long

series of gaffes: The waitress spilled the aperitifs, which were not replaced; the "amusegueule" were stale; the fish was too salty; no bread was provided, and so on. Only if one could live by dessert alone were two stars plausible for this restaurant.

Lunch for four came to \$350. CAMILLE FORMAN. Paris.

## in the liberal of the property and the little of the BOOKS

By Victor Pelevin, 179 pages. \$22. Farrar Straus Giroux. Reviewed by

Anthony Olcott IN order to annoy the bourgeoisie, the Russian avantgarde at the beginning of this century replaced their boutonnieres with bright yellow spatulas and wrote poems in a "trans-intelligence" language of their own devising, consisting entirely of nonsense syllables. Victor Pelevin, in "The Life of Insects," looks to be ending the century in a similar spirit, by transforming

his countrymen into bugs. Born in 1962, a Muscovite reared in Russia's long gray 'stagnation' and its underground of bootlegged Pink Floyd albums, samizdat science fiction and self-taught computer geeking, Victor Pelevin has emerged as a leading star of post-Soviet serious literature. His short-story collection "The Blue Lantern" was awarded one of the first Russian Booker Prizes, and his three novels have been translated into most of

the European languages. deadpan, sardonic comedy in position and translation; the

into dung-rolling scarab beetles and the ubiquitous whores into gaudy, shortlived nymph flies (apt though that is, it is curious that Pelevin did not choose a different last, since in Russian slang they are "night butterflies"). It is probably the insouciance with which Pelevin treats these characters simulta-

neously as people and as bugs, who wander their various ways through the crumbling bleakness of a Black Sea beach resort, that has led foreign reviewers to hail this novel as a surreal cyberpunk taxonomy of post-Soviet life.

But for all its determination to shock, there is an air of tired familiarity about "The Life of Insects." In part this is because Franz Kafka and Karel Capek both explored the man-bug trope many decades ago, as did Gary Larson more recently in his "Far

Side" cartoons. In part, too, the book's staleness may be due to the "The Life of Insects" is a inevitable lag between com-

he no retrict to the last the CIFE OF INSECTS which Pelevin transforms the Russian original of this novel apart, and even that they denew Russian capitalists and appeared in 1993 and seems their American partners into to have been conceived even bloodsucking mosquitoes, the earlier, since it is set in industrious ordinary citizens Crimea, which has not been than they did in 1991 - they part of "Russia" (as we all once called the U.S.S.R.)

since 1991. It is in Pelevin's insistence on preaching to his countrymen, however, that "The Life anthropomorphy for these of Insects" seems most oldfashioned. Pelevin's impulse originates in the golden era of the Russian intelligentsia, when writers took it as both their duty and their right to hector society, pointing out the failures, lies and absurdities of late Soviet rule.

There was a time when Russians lived and died by such literature; many of the writers of that era, and the nameless typists who made the smudged samizdat versions in which their texts circulated before being published abroad, were genuine heroes, who with their labors helped to bring down the Soviet Union. In the last decade, how-

> Samson did, have discovered that there is a downside to temple-toppling. Freed from ideological censorship, Russia's artists have run head-on into the much more implacable "censorship" of the marketplace. It is practically impossible, for example, to purchase works by Pelevin, or indeed by any of the Russian Booker winners, in Russian editions in Moscow, because it has been years since Russian readers have wished to pay for the privilege of being told that they live without nobility or higher purpose, that they are condemned by fate garbage and decay of a world

When Russians read now - which they do much less mostly want fare that will make them richer, thinner or able to fall asleep more quickly - just as we do. The fulminations of Pelevin, and of the dwindling herd of disappointed intellectuals like him, are dismissed as chernookha, a lovely neologism that suggests the masochistic eroticism of reveling in the black failures and defeats of one's homeland.

those in the West do not seem to have lost their appetite for chemookha — as long as it is about Russia. However, Pelevin's criticisms of his countrymen, that they are locked into a bug-like scramble for existence, might equally easily be leveled at the West. Unnoticed and unheralded, most Russians of today are chasing the same petty, material goals — to make a liv-ing, to get the kids into college, to replace the TV or hang better wallpaper, to ever, Russian writers, just as squeeze in a quick vacation on a warm beach some-

Unlike Russia's readers,

To be sure, this kind of life is hopelessly bourgeois, of precisely the sort that has always driven intellectuals of the avant-garde to a fury; however, after all that Russians have endured -- and inflicted on themselves this century, that they can once again be vilified as bourgeois is both a compliment and something of a miracle.

Anthony Olcott, professor of Russian literature and coand nature to crawl among the director of Colgate University's Moscow Study Group, that was never properly built wrote this for The Washington and which has now fallen Post.

## **BEST SELLERS**

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## **TENDER NOTICE**

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The production of a natural history documentary about recently sighted merlion-manatees.

Tender No.: STB/FOO/69/98 Tender Box No: 1

Closing Date and Time: 3rd April 12 noon.

Production companies are invited to tender for the making of a documentary about recently sighted merlion-manatees off Singapore's Southern Islands. Proposed treatments should include actual footage of the animals in their natural habitat.

The documentary is intended to encourage tourism to Singapore and should therefore focus on the inquisitive and friendly nature of the animals, and their uncanny resemblance to Singapore's mythical Merlion. From a natural history perspective, treatments should also focus on the evolution of the animal and the implications of its surprising appearance in Singapore waters last month.

Tender submission must include details on recommended visual style and a detailed budget breakdown. Company credentials and portfolio are to be included also.

Tenders Documents can be collected at the STB Tender Office before noon on April 1st.

## Bruce Lundvall: The Master of Blue Note

By Mike Zwerin International Herald Tribune

EW YORK - Bruce Lundvall, president of Blue Note Records, says "jazz can make money if you are very very very careful to keep your overhead

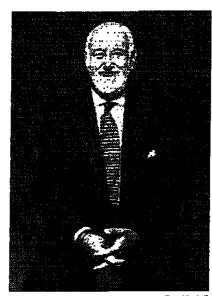
A staff of only 11 deals with a roster of approximately 25 artists, each releasing at least an album a year. And then there are all of the collections, bestofs, and boxes repackaged and reissued from their large catalogue.

Lundvall is one of the jazz world's most respected voices and Blue Note will be celebrating its 60th birthday this year. This is Lundvall's 37th year as an executive in the recording business, his 13th as president of Blue Note and it just keeps getting better and better.

The catalogue includes '60s soul-jazz people like Brother Jack McDuff, Big John Patten and Stanley Turrentine; bebop by Thelonious Monk, Lee Morgan 'The Sidewinder' was a surprise hit for Blue Note) and Bud Powell, and the free improvisations of Ornette Coleman, Andrew Hill, Sam Rivers and others.

The phone can ring more than 11 times before one of the 11 picks it up. And then it might be picked up by a computer with a Brooklyn accent. The downstairs lobby is a corridor leading to one slow and clangy elevator operated by a human being.

Lundvall's corner office overlooks the busy and centrally located inter-



Lundvall: Keep the overhead low.

and white blowups of musicians, including one of Zoot Sims with "play better" in a cartoon bubble above his head. Once, when Zoot was in the hinterlands playing with a spectacularly bad local rhythm section, he turned around in the middle of a tune and gave the drummer some practical advice. "Play better," he said.

The folklore is packed with Zoot Sims stories, and when an interviewer asked Lundvall where he thought jazz was heading these days, he laughed recalling that after having been asked section of 23rd Street and Park Avenue more or less the same question, Zoot South. His walls are covered with black replied: "Around the corner to Jim and Andy's bar" — a musicians' hangout to which Zoot himself often headed.

"The trouble is that there is just not room for all the qualified new players looking to record," Lundvall said, serious now. "Even artists with fairly major names. There are too many piano players at the moment, for example. Blue Note has two major players from Cuba alone—Gonzalo Rubalcaba and Chuchu Valdez. Both of them are monsters.

"One thing you have to remember is that it's like — I hear it from young players all the time — Bird is still alive. In a certain sense, everyone who ever played is still alive. All of the young players are still competing with Bird. In other words, not just with their peers. They are competing with the past. If the past is recorded, then it's still alive.

"The wonderful thing about this mu-sic is that it is forever. When you make a jazz record with a credible artist, it will sell something in every part of the world. And if you make the right choices, then 5, 10, 20 years from now you can reissue them. We are creating future catalogue right now with our new releases. And our catalogue is the most valuable asset we have. It's over 50 percent of our business. It's like an annuity.'

Blue Note was founded in 1939 by Alfred Lion who left his native Berlin just in time. Lion loved boogie woogie piano and he recorded Albert Ammons and Meade (Lux) Lewis at his own expense. He was joined by his child-hood friend and fellow Berliner Francis Wolff the same year.

Recording engineer Rudy Van Gelder joined up in 1953. They took early

advantage of the LP format which allowed for longer solos than 78 RPMs.

The partners would cast their recordings by hiring musicians as they climbed up the stairs at 4 A.M. after playing four sets at Birdland. Then they all went out to Van Gelder's studio in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey. They knew the music and the people who played it; and they knew that most of the musicians were just getting warmed up close to dawn after four sets.

They changed combos and leaders often. They knew who liked to play to-gether and who was hot lately. The musicians could play whatever they liked however they wanted to. In this way the catalogue grew so formidable that people would buy a Blue Note record regardless of who was on it. (Wolff's jacket pho-

tographs were striking.)
After 10 years of changing ownership and general floundering, Lundvall and his consulting producer, Michael Cuscana, revived promotion and began to sign new artists again in 1985.

A wise signer, Lundvall is an imposing, gray-bearded, 62-year-old man who looked extremely proud dropping a long list of impressive new names he had brought to Blue Note's roster - Bobby McFerrin, Dianne Reeves, Joe Lovano, Jacky Terrasson and Michel Petruc-ciani, for starters. He shuffled through piles of folders on his desk to make sure he wasn't forgetting anybody.

Lundvall is hands-on. He has ultimate responsibility for signing all contracts. Three nights a week he's out in the clubs. "It's simple," he explained. "I'm a fan." As simple as that.

Aubrey, the 17th-century antiquarian,

magpie collector, eccentric and gossip

first brought to television and then the

stage by the adapter-director Patrick

Garland. For two hours, and indeed the

interval during which he nods off still on

stage, Aubrey reminisces about the bed-

room exploits of Sir Walter Raleigh, the

odd jawbones of Sir Thomas More and

the sexual habits of the court circa 1680,

all the while as if muttering away to

Giggling, spluttering, coughing, whispering, John Aubrey seems to have

total recall of everyone he has ever met

or insulted. This is the private life of a

born diarist whose insights into the

people and places of his long lifetime

tell us far more than any history book of

But where Dotrice was angry and

abrasive and abusive, Williams is too

often merely cozy and clubby, though

he nicely conveys a man whose brain is now running faster than his body; some

of the energy seems therefore to have drifted out of Garland's bugely intel-

ligent and evocative scripting of a lost

Currently celebrating its 15th year

enterprising Man in the Moon pub theat-

er at the foot of the King's Road,

Chelsea, is reviving the first major

AIDS play, Larry Kramer's "The Nor-mal Heart," originally seen over here

with Martin Sheen at the Royal Court in

1986. Yet this is no period piece; it is a

still sadly topical account of AIDS vic-

tims and the constant uneasiness of the

establishment in deciding how best to

treat them politically and socially as

A great cry of journalistic and dra-

matic rage, it indicts President Reagan

and Mayor Ed Koch of New York for

giving too little and too late to a gay

community already beginning to be

well as medically.

decimated.

world of Elizabethan gossip.

himself.



Marc Jacobs's silk cashmere sleeveless top and felt skirt.

# Skirt and Sweater, Stylish and Simple

By Suzy Menkes

'EW YORK - Just as the 1980s were defined by the power suit, a key fashion combo has emerged in the 1990s: the sweater and skirt. How a designer handles those simple pieces — the proportions, the textures, the colors and the discreet details - is the benchmark of modern style.

And they don't come much more stylish than Marc Jacobs.

The collection that the designer sent out at the end of a long day of New York fall shows on Monday was the quintessence of cool. It was brief,

#### **NEW YORK FASHION**

with just 45 outfits; it was simple, meaning that there were no obvious fastenings, as press studs fastened flyfront jackets and skirts were laced at the back of the waist. The show was also soft in its blue and gray colors and its fluffy boiled jersey and mohair.

All this is nothing new for Jacobs. In fact the look, with its skirts crystal pleated or given umbrella-spine seaming, as well as the simple squarecut jackets, plain pants and thistledown sweaters, was just a continuation of the spring style. But the experience of working in Paris on Louis Vuitton clothing added a layer of refinement from the pretty, polished makeup to the delicate pointed slip-

pers with disk heels. Does it look conture? It's just the fabrics," said Jacobs backstage. But the charm was also in the detail: Those apron-tie skirts, flap-front pants bound with grosgrain ribbon and swelling sweater sleeves tied at the wrist. For evening, gauzy little wool-muslin tops with drawn-thread work outlined with sparkles took the graceful collection

seamlessly from day to night. Mark Eisen designs in the same spirit, but with a 20/20 American vision. That means sportswear sent out to a formula, as country loden green progressed to every designer's favor-

**CROSSWORD** 

ite urban gray, with a squirt of raspberry. The rest was a play on fabrics, with a gossamer-light sweater bal-anced by a thickly felted skirt, a quilted body warmer with a filmy skirt or a panel of sheer organza inserted in loden tweed. The result? Nice wearable clothes, with the inevitable long gray skirts and the occasional surprise of a caped funic or culotte dress.

The arrival of the cutting-edge British designer Hussein Chalayan at Tse cashmere suggested a revolution. But, in fact, the show was an evolution, as Chalayan made his signature fragile. bound-arm silhouette and geometric cut-outs commercial. Double-faced cashmere, a strong New York trend, made for hefty and boxy tailoring. But with knitwear, the show achieved a moment of grace, when Chalayan gave his high-rise funnel necklines and elongated sleeves a light-handed twist. by edging them with gossamer-light wisps of mohair at neck and wrist. And the show closed on a high note with a pair of black coats with hands tucked

into slender thigh pockets. Fashion's other litmus test of the season is a designer take on the dress. For Carolina Herrera that was an evening story, as graphic embroidery inspired by the new Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, illuminated slender evening gowns. For day, sporty ease was the story, with long sweeping coats worn over skirts, dresses and pants, the most luxurious in pashmina wool or with a sheer track-suit stripe.

When Isabel Toledo sent out a plain and perfect navy jersey dress with tiny tucks wrinkling across the stomach, you felt the familiar mix of admiration and exasperation. Why can't all Toledo's clothes be like that dress rather than the artistically tortured garments in which pants have an ugly focus on a wide gusset or dresses have geometric circles blown out of the sides. Toledo's creative energy is admirable and some of her ideas, like cape-shouldered tops, are charming. But by the measure of modernity, the collection was low on the simple perfection of that plain sweater and skirt.

## 'Cuckolds': Restoration and a Rebirth

By Sheridan Morley

ONDON - Restoration comedies frequently are revived, at least by those of our surviving subsidized companies that can yet afford them; but they very seldom are totally reborn. That miracle, however, is precisely what has now happened to Edward Ravenscroft's 1681 "The London Cuckolds" on the Lyttelton stage at the National

In his National debut as rewriter and director, Terry Johnson ("Dead Funny," "Insignificance" and "Hys-Funny," "Insignificance" and "Hysteria") has taken one of the longer-lost satires of the late 17th century and reworked it as a wondrous farce, one that could well be retitled "No Sex Please We're History.

Take three beautiful wives, three Behaving Badly," and by taking this dicrous husbands, a rake and assorted complex plot of mismatched marriage ludicrous husbands, a rake and assorted other Londoners of the period, and have them open the evening with a long, lascivious dance routine that leaves us in no doubt that bed and bawd are to be the main order of the

vening.

At a time when all too many THEATER comedies of this and other periods are hauled out of shape and original meaning to accommodate modern susceptibilities of

feminism or other political correctness of the moment, the joy of Johnson's production is that it leaves Ravenscroft uncensored in all his in-

correct glory. The director has drawn energetic and brilliant performances from a large cast, not least Caroline Quentin of, suitably enough, the TV sitcom "Men

at a cracking pace, Johnson achieves an exuberantly physical, knockabout sexual satire of betrayal and bedroom confusion that shoots thousands of volts through a long-neglected

and sometimes creaky script. Were Ben Travers or Ray Cooney to have lived three centuries ago, this is what they would have written, but Johnson's genius is to bring out an Ayckbourn side to the play as

well, so that in among the laughs we get some thoughtful asides on the age-old battle of the sexes in a then very maledominant society.

Thirty years after Roy Dotrice pioneered the marathon solo performance, Michael Williams is back in "Brief Lives" (at the Duchess) as John

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This is still a heartrending script, and it is that sense of rage and despair that gives a raw play its tremendous energy and emotional depth. John Guerrassio as the crusader, Warren Katz as his straight lawyer brother and Monica Ernesti as the paralyzed doctor are all su-perb in Richard Bridge's taut producn F. Kennedy Intl. School 🔲 "Kat and the Kings" (Vaudeville) is the small-scale South African musical in American School about the hotel porters turning themselves into a close-harmony cabaret erican School in London 🛚 group by night. I raved about it at the vmount International Tricycle last summer and see no reason to alter that enthusiasm now. ₽ ACROSS 1 Lose it 5 Former NATO Mediterranean headquarters 10 illegal block Management Schools 14 Smooth tongued 15 Pursuer of the Pleiades 17 Polecat's e Hôtelière de Lausanne 🗌 П 

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## **MEDIA MARKETS**

# Slate Wipes Itself Clean: You Want It, You Buy It

By Robin Pogrebin
New Yurl Times Service

"ichael Kinsley insists he is not getting cold feet. On the contrary, insists Mr. Kinsley, 47, editor and creator of Microsoft's on-line magazine, Slate. He has become a zealous convert to the Pacific Northwest - Slate is based in Redmond, Washington, He bought land. He carries one of those wallets that closes with Velcro. He recycles. He has even taken up snowshoeing.

Nevertheless, Mr. Kinsley could be forgiven for feeling a little skittish at the moment. Earlier this month, the gate came down on free visitors to Slate; now people who want to read the magazine have to pay for it.

It is not a lot of money in the scheme of things: \$19.95 for a year's subscription and the magazine still offers a free "front porch," its home page. But I've taken some hits for complaining paying anything at all is radical stuff about its insularity and smugness," he potential profitability of the Internet.

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now is free, and to charge anything traditional magazine pieces." more than that you have to have a project that is very unique," said Bill Bass, an analyst at Forrester Research Inc., a technology research company in models. "It's still to me very inside the Cambridge, Massachusetts. "A lot of media elite — it's like they're ricothe stuff that's worked well on-line has a financial purpose or is a game or puters," said James Wolcott, a media a financial purpose or is a game or pornography. And Slate doesn't fall into any of these categories."

Slate (www.slate.com) is radical in its way -- not just because it is trying to get readers to pay but because it has set out to help define a category that did not exist, a product straddling several worlds. It arguably has the depth and analysis of print, the immediacy of radio and television, the bells and whistles of Web sites. Some articles are carefully conceived, some go out lications with Web sites are in a wait-



Michael Kinsley, editor of Slate, Microsoft's magazine on the Internet.

Mr. Kinsley says that as he goes voice of the Web that's developing -for the Internet, and the venture is said. "But there is also its casualness evolved over the last year and a half The going price on the Internet more in that direction and away from

> There are print-oriented people who find Slate too "Webby." cyber-savvy people who find it too mired in old critic who was tough on the magazine in Vanity Fair last year. "One of the things really missing from it, what Salon really has, is a pop sensibility."

> In going to paid circulation, Slate is largely out there on its own. While a few publications like The Wall Street Journal and The Economist charge for their on-line versions, (as does The New York Times for readers outside the United States) general interest pub-

on the Web without editing. Slate calls and-see mode. The economics seem itself a weekly yet updates its contents attractive - no paper, printing or postbeen casualties. Recently, the webzalong he is learning about things like ines Word and Charged folded before how to strike the right tone. "There is a even trying paid subscriptions.

And over the last few months, Microsoft Corp. has scaled back its Internet media efforts, including layoffs at Sidewalk, its on-line city guides. As being watched closely as a test of the and informality, and we certainly have a result, many people in the publishing world are wary of placing their bets on the future of Slate. "If they pull it off, there are going to be a lot of publishers out there dancing in the streets," Mr. Bass said, "because nobody on the content side is running profitably right

> Mr. Kinsley said that navigating such new territory "makes this very interesting but also very hard. It's as if you were founding a paper magazine and said, O.K., we chopped down the trees, now what?'

Slate has planned to go paid since its inception in June 1996. Mr. Kinsley backed away once before - in February 1997. Finally, the moment felt as right as it ever would. "It seemed to me, we'd been putting it out for over a year and it was time to fish or cut

See SLATE, Page 15

# Japan Hopes 'Big Bang' Will Make Tokyo Shine Like the Big Apple

2,132-Page Deregulation Measure Is Moving Through Parliament

By Sheryl WuDunn

New York Times Service TOKYO - In one of its most ambitious undertakings ever, the government is throwing open the doors on its banks. Major banks consulted financial markets, launching a far-reaching liberalization that it hopes will radically reshape its financial landscape and bring its famed prowess in manufacturing to the fi-

nancial industry.

The rules of the old game start changing Wednesday in a phased, three-year process called the Big Bang. For the government of Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, April 1 is the opening shot of a revolution to transform Tokyo into a financial center as vibrant as New York and London and to shatter the rigidities of the lumbering Japanese economy.

Scores of new measures, embraced in a 2,132-page tome now working its way through Parliament, are intended to bring mutual funds to the man and woman in the street, break down barriers between banks and brokerages, encourage insolvent financial institutions to close down and allow brokers to compete with the Tokyo Stock Exchange by launching their own mini-exchanges to trade stocks.

It amounts to a grand bid to create more efficient markets and could end up changing Japanese investing habits the way those of Americans have been transformed over the last quarter-century. The government hopes that

by 2001 it will have begun to coax a wide swath of the nation's savers, who are collectively hoarding about \$9 trillion — a sum greater than the annual output of the U.S. economy - into investing a chunk of it in new ways.

Until recently, Japan's fi-nancial industry has been a

than by government officials, who stifled competition with offered to ordinary citizens, stiff regulations and by sharwho in the past mostly parked their money in ordinary saving new ideas among the ings accounts that offered the one another so much that they same dismal interest rates. ended up expanding overseas American and European

first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange gained 10.43 points, or 0.84 per-cent, to close at 1,251.70.

The rise came in the last

half-hour of trading in what

operations, or government

attempts to raise stock

prices by using public postal savings and insur-

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

ance funds.

fell 0.6 percent.

in a herd, making property loans at the same time and companies, from Merrill Lynch & Co. to Fidelity Inthen watching in horror as vestments, are rushing into the market in the hope of those loans soured simultawresting funds from Japanese neously. Even now, they announce profits and losses all banks. They are betting that together in a group meeting. Japanese savers are fed up with a dearth of choices, and The government aims to

Nikkei Misses Target

pan's fiscal year, in a bid to traders call price-keeping

TOKYO - The govern-

ment tried but failed to push

the benchmark Tokyo stock index above 18,000 points

Tuesday, the last day of Ja-

make Japanese companies

Some leaders of the gov-

erning Liberal Democratic

Party had repeatedly called

for injecting public funds

into the market so that

banks, life insurers and oth-

er corporations would not

record losses on their

equity holdings when they

closed their books Tues-

day. They had openly set

their sights on last year's

gineered by the govern-

index of all shares on the

closing level of 18,003.

look more profitable.

straitjacketed society, gov-erned less by shareholders more open system. By 2001, it range of American-style muhopes far more variety will be tual funds and sophisticated asset management, wrapped up in bolder marketing.

The master plan was inspired by earlier efforts to liberalize markets in the United States and Britain. In the United States, the move was called May Day, after the date in 1975 when brokerage commissions were deregulated. That helped lay the foundation for the stock-market boom of the past two decades. In Britain, markets were freed in the Big Bang of 1986 that helped fortify London's status as a pillar of international finance.

Japan is hoping to modemize its markets as well, but it will not be easy.

'We have all been living in a protected environment, like a society of young children," said Nobuyuki Koga, a director at Nomura Securities Ltd., Japan's largest brokerage. But from now on, only those who think for themselves and act by themselves will survive. And it is a big question whether everyone who belonged to that society can grow up and become an adult."

The Big Bang still could fizzle into a Little Rattle. Separately, industry fig-ures showed that February There are potential minefields housing starts fell 13.6 percent from a year earlier. ahead for the authorities, who while construction orders have already shown some am-bivalence about giving up so At the same time, an inmuch control to the markets.

Partiy as a result, deregudustry survey showed that lation will be spread over three years, officially beginning by Japan's small and mediumsized companies had never A last-minute rally that traders and economists said appeared to have been enfreeing up some brokerage commissions and making it easier for individuals to open The economic sentiment ment pushed up Tokyo share prices slightly. The Nikkei 225 stock average rose 264.13 points, or 1.62 percent, to end at 16,527.17 after plummeting 476.22 points Monday. The Topix index of all shares on the

accounts overseas.
It will end in 2001, if all goes as planned, with a better stock-settlement broader financial empires, greater disclosure, an expan-ded watchdog agency over the financial industry — and probably a lot fewer banks and brokerages.

## Oil Market Defies OPEC's Cutbacks

Crude Prices Drop Despite Producers' First Pledge in Years to Trim Output

VIENNA --- A decision by major oil producers to trim oil output for the first time in years stumbled Tuesday when prices sank.

At an emergency meeting that ended early Tuesday, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries decided to reduce output by 1.24 million barrels a day, or 4.7 percent of the group's total output, starting Wednesday.
In addition, non-OPEC

members, including Mexico and Norway, promised cuts of 260,000 barrels a day more in an effort to shore up prices. But oil prices fell as investors bet that the oversupply

in world markets was too great to prompt a price increase.
In London, benchmark
Brent crude oil futures closed down 51 cents a barrel at \$14.26, while in New York, crude for May delivery closed

down 52 cents at \$15.59. After years of failing to honor its production agree-ments, OPEC may have made the mistake of raising too many expectations by calling an emergency meeting right after announcing a round of production cuts, said Michael Rothman, an oil analyst at Merrill Lynch in New York.



Rilwanu Lukman, the OPEC secretary-general, at a press conference after the group's meeting Tuesday.

**CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES** 

that it might not deliver on its promises to cut output. "There's still going to be a lot of oil around," Mr. Roth-

But OPEC, which pumps 40 percent of global output, put a brave face on the no-confi-OPEC came up with noth-

ing new, and it did nothing to dence vote by predicting a ease concerns in the market rally when evidence gradually emerged of supply restraint.

> months," said Ali Naimi, the Saudi oil minister.

"The market should judge the OPEC decision in two

He said OPEC could take further action to support the

Libid-Libor Rates

Key Money Rates

called its new spirit of prag-matism. OPEC has succeeded in getting prices off the floor, at least for now. The futures markets rallied 15 percent last week, and they were still holding on to almost half those gains despite the steep slide Monday and Tuesday. The real test will come in

the next month or so, when independent analysts begin releasing estimates of how much oil OPEC is actually selling.
"You have to wait, allow for

some time," said Luis Guisti president of Venezuela's staterun Petroleos de Venezuela "You don't remove 1.5 million barrels a day and not get a reaction. We will get a

OPEC was forced into action after prices plunged to the lowest point in nearly a decade following the group's decision in November to pump more oil just as demand was eroding because of the Asian economic crisis and a mild

winter in much of the world. The resulting low prices have been a windfall for oil consumers, but OPEC has lost \$15 billion through lower revenue, and other oil producers. from the North Sea to rural Oklahoma and Texas, are feeling the pinch as well. (Reuters, AP, Bloomberg)

Global Private Banking

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Republic National Bank o

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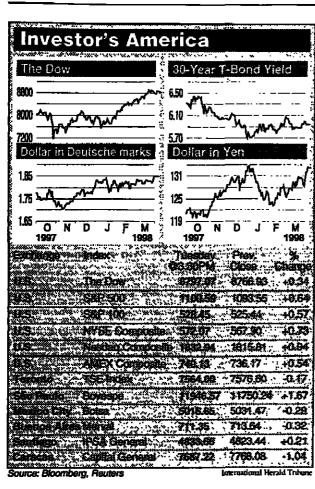
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#### **Very briefly:**

- Gibson Greetings Inc. will cut 480 jobs, send more work to outside contractors and invest as much as \$35 million to upgrade its computer systems to try to improve profit. The greeting-card company also will take a \$26.1 million first-quarter charge.
- Toyota Motor Corp. is planning a \$500 million expansion of its Indiana plant by building a pickup truck assembly factory. The expansion will add 1,000 jobs.
- Chrysler Corp. and General Motors Corp. are considering selling their joint-venture parts unit. New Venture Gear Inc., to help the business attract other customers and to cut Chrysler's expenses.
- McKesson Corp. will be the primary supplier of drugs and consumer health and beauty products to American Pharmacy Owners Association members under a five-year accord valued at more than \$1 billion.
- Boston Properties Inc., owned by Mortimer Zuckerman, and two partners won the bidding for the right to buy the last two development sites in New York's Times Square with an
- U.S.-China Industrial Exchange Inc. plans to reorganize through job cuts and management salary reductions. The U.S. health-care company, which provides sales and consulting services in China to U.S. corporations, reported a 1997 net loss

#### AT&T Scraps Unlimited Net Access

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — AT&T Corp. said Tuesday it would no longer allow customers unlimited Internet access for a flat monthly fee of \$19.95, in the latest industry move to curb the onslaught of users straining the global network.

Starting May 1, AT&T will charge 99 cents for every hour

people spend on-line after 150 hours of monthly use, in addition to the \$19.95 fee. AT&T has 1.2 million Internet customers. \$1.6780. to the \$19.95 fee. AT&T has 1.2 million Internet customers.

## **Dollar Rises** As Outlook Sours in Japan

NEW YORK — The dollar rose

against the ven Tuesday as the failure of a Japanese government plan to bolster the stock market persuaded investors the country could not avert a recession.

'The dollar will grind higher against the yen" as confidence fades that the governing party's 16 trillion yen (\$120 billion) plan to stimulate the economy will succeed. said Ken Nixon, a currency salesman at Svenska Handelsbanken m

New York. In 3 P.M. trading, the dollar rose to 133.130 yen, compared with 132.065 yen late Monday. But it slipped to 1.8480 Deutsche marks from 1.8482 DM. Government purchases of stocks helped the Nikkei stock average rise 1.6 percent Tues-

#### FOREIGN EXCHANGE

day to finish the fiscal year at 16,527.17. But the governing Liberal Democratic Party, as part of its stimulus plan, wanted it to end the fiscal year higher than 18,003.00, where it was a year ago. The lower close means many Japanese companies lost money on their stock holdings.

Because of the end of the fiscal year and the failure of the Nikkei to go above 18,000, there's good incentive to take the yen lower," said Ed Garston, a currency analyst at the market research company LD.E.A.

When foreign-exchange regula-tions are lifted Wednesday, Japanese investors will also be encouraged to shun record low interest rates at home and seek higher returns abroad, analysts said.

In Germany, the expectation that interest rates may be on hold for the time being is favoring the dollar. The Bundesbank council member Edgar Meister said countries that hoped to join economic and monetary union and had high short-term interest rates should bring them more in line with those in Germany after May.

Short-term lending rates in those countries are expected to converge in the months before Jan. 1, when the euro is to be introduced. Germany's benchmark securities repurchase rate is 3.3 percent, while Spain's bellwether rate is 4.5 percent and Italy's benchmark discount rate is 5.5 percent.

Against other major currencies, the dollar fell to 6.1905 French francs from 6.1912 francs and to 1.5220 Swiss francs from 1.5235 francs. The

# Wall Street Gains on Steady Rates

Compiled by Our Staff From Disputches

NEW YORK - Stocks rose Tuesday, bolstered by the Federal Reserve Board's decision to leave U.S. interest rates steady and an economic report that showed growing consumer cantion.

The Dow Jones industrial average was 55.31 points higher in late trading at 8,837.43, while the Standard & Poor's 500 index was 11.09 points higher at 1,104.64. Gaining issues outnumbered losing ones by a 2-to-1 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

The stock market's ascent was reversing four days of losses.
"There are a multitude of cur-

rents that are leading to higher stock prices," said Philip Schettewi, a portfolio strategist at Loomis Sayles & Co. Most importantly, he said, "we're having decent growth without signs of inflationary pressure." Federal Reserve policymakers left the benchmark interest rate on overnight bank loans unchanged at their meeting Tuesday in a wager that Asia's financial crisis will cut into export growth and cool an otherwise resilient economy.

Signs that consumers also expected the economy to slow somewhat came from the Conference Board, which said its consumer confidence index fell in March from a 29-year high in February.

Such consumer caution bolsters the stock market, whose investors have been concerned that the economy was growing so fast that it late trading to 1,833.57. would revive inflation.

But some analysts said they expected the central bank to raise interest rates when they met next, because there has been little concrete evidence that the U.S. economy is slowing.

"For now the Fed is just sitting on a park bench waiting to see what

#### U.S. STOCKS

happens with Asia," said Joel Naroff, an economist at First Union Corp. But, he warned, "this is not a prescription for people to be in a comfort zone.'

Nonetheless, the steady course on interest rates helped send bond prices higher. The price of the benchmark 30-year issue rose 17/ 32 point in late trading to 102 18/32, taking the yield down to 5.94 percent from 5.98 percent Monday.

Technology issues led the stock market higher. The Nasdaq composite index rose 14.87 points in

#### To Our Readers

Because of the seven-hour time difference between New York and Paris this week, the U.S. stock tables, the U.S. futures and some other items in this edition reflect early prices. This change is necessary to meet distribution require-

Advanced Micro Devices rose 2 15/16 to 291/2 after an investment firm reported that the company had significantly improved its number of usable K6 chips produced in the first quarter. The K6 chip is a rival to Intel Corp.'s Pentium II microprocessor.

Intel was up 5/16 at 77 11/16. But tobacco stocks fell after a leading senator proposed a bill that would deny cigarette makers key legal protections they seemed to have won in an agreement last summer to

settle most health-related lawsuits. Philip Morris lost 15/16 to 41 11/ 16, and RJR Nabisco Holdings fell

1 9/16 to 32%. (AP, Reuters, Bloomberg)

#### ■ More Money in Funds

After several months of more cautious and conservative investing, mutual-fund shareholders and managers are growing bold again, The New York Times reported.

According to industry groups that track funds' cash flows, the amount of new money invested in several types of aggressive stock funds in the United States and abroad rose steadily in February and March as a surge in technology stocks led American share prices to record highs.

According to data released Monday by the Investment Company Institute, a fund trade group, equity mutual funds took in a total of \$24.2 billion in February, nearly twothirds more than in January.

## **Motorola Says** It's Studying Reorganizing

Bu Bu

Bridge News

NEW YORK - Motorola Inc. said Tuesday its management and board were discussing a possible reorganization of the company as the giant electronics concern tried to improve the way it sold its products.

Published reports said Motorola was planning to combine its six businesses into two divisions. They said discussions were under way but that a decision would be weeks away. The spokesman said the

company was looking at ways "combine our technical competencies in such a way that

we help our customers.' Motorola, which warned last month that its first-quarter earnings would be below analysts' expectations, has been selling businesses and cutting costs in recent months.

The spokesman said the current plans under consideration would be separate from those

"It doesn't mean that we are exiting any businesses," he said.

Motorola shares rose, apparently in response to the announcement, gaining \$3.0625 to \$60.50.

## Money Sings as Radio Embraces 'Pay for Play'

By Neil Strauss

New York Times Service NEW YORK — In January, a radio station in Portland, Oregon, and a record label in Los Angeles struck an unusual arrangement. The record company, Flip/Interscope, agreed to pay the radio station, KUFO-FM, about \$5,000 to play a song by one of the label's "emerg-

ing" acts 50 times over five weeks.

The song, "Counterfeit," is by
Limp Bizkit, a hip-hop-influenced heavy-metal band whose music the station initially considered a little too intense for its audience. Money changed minds, making KUFO the first rock station known to use one of the most widely debated revenueraising tactics sweeping the American radio industry this year: pay for

cades when reigning rock disk jock-number of collaborations, including eys such as Alan Freed were depaying CBS to play a song four throned after they admitted having accepted money from record labels in exchange for spinning certain songs. But there is a difference be-

tween payola and pay for play.

Laws against payola, according to the radio regulators at the Federal Communications Commission, protect broadcasters more specifically than the public, prohibiting employees from receiving money or gifts under the table in exchange for sneaking records onto playlists. Pay for play occurs when a station receives the money up front and discloses to listeners at the time of broadcast that the song or block of programming involved has been paid for. This approach is legal, like television's "infomercials.

Representatives of CBS Radio.

paying CBS to play a song four times a month on a syndicated program, according to record-company executives. A spokesman for CBS declined to comment.

Jacor Communications Inc., which owns 194 stations, is considering similar collaborations among its country stations, record labels and stores. Jaye Albright, the company's director of country programming, said the idea was only in its early stages.

half-hour or hourlong paid music programs. In the 1980s the Federal Communications Commission lif- companies. ted its ban on advertisements longer than 18 minutes.

To some, pay for play seems susone of the country's biggest station
piciously reminiscent of payola, the
owners, have been talking to counscandal-mired practice of past detry-music record labels about a Kelley, the enforcement chief in the
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"It's just that they need to announce that they're doing it in some manner that is clear to their audience.

Despite this, record labels are loath to talk about pay for play. Radio-promotions executives at Time Warner Inc., Sony Corp., Universal Pictures and PolyGram NV all declined to respond to queries on the practice or on whether they had an interest in it.

Tom Taylor, editor of M Street Daily, a radio newsletter, said, "I In addition, several independent find it startling that it's emerging, production companies have been and at the same time it's logical that approaching labels about producing it would emerge at a time when the radio industry is reinventing itself and its relationships with record

"If you go back to the late '60s d '70s, record companies and "It is permissible for a station to routinely allocated a lot of their ad

## **AMEX**

Tuesday's 3 P.M. The 300 most traded stocks of the day.

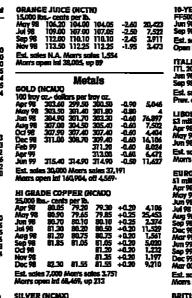
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## U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

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# Battle to Buy Rolls May Not Be Over Yet

BMW Victory in Doubt as VW Raises Bid

MUNICH — Bayerische Motoren a new bid from Volkswagen. Werke AG's apparent victory in the battle for Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Ltd. was thrown open to question Tuesday amid reports that Volkswagen AG had raised its bid and that other carmakers might still make offers for the British luxury-car concern.

The German daily newspaper bid for Rolls to 1.7 billion Deutsche marks (\$920 million) from 1.5 billion DM. Guenther Scherelis, a VW spokesman, declined to confirm the report, which did not cite sources.

The owner of Rolls, Vickers PLC, said Monday it had chosen to sell the unit to BMW for £340 million (\$570 million). Vickers said it could not discuss bids with any rival suitors other parts for Rolls-Royce, was during an estimated three- to fourweek period of exclusive talks with BMW, although bidders could send an unsolicited revised offers for Rolls-Royce.

But the chairman of BMW, Bernd Pischetsrieder, said Tuesday that other companies could make fresh bids for Rolls-Royce before Vickers shareholders met in mid-May to approve the sale of the British carmaker.

"I cannot rule out that others make further, higher bids," Mr. Pischetsrieder said. "It is possible." those bids would sway shareholders

to defy the Vickers board. Mr. Pischetsrieder said, "There have been historically hardly any decisions where shareholders made a decision different from the board."

A BMW spokesman said the company would not raise its bid. A spokesman for Vickers declined to

PARIS — The number of job-

seekers fell in February by 7,300, to

3,026,400, but France's unemploy-

ment rate was unchanged at 12.1

percent, the Labor Ministry said

The February report appeared to

confirm a gradual improvement that

has slowly reduced the number of

comment on whether it had received

Brig Daniels, a spokeswoman for Vickers, said, "We will do whatever is in the best interests of our shareholders. The agreement in principle with BMW is an excellent deal.

Meanwhile, a group of private investors, led by Rolls-Royce enthusiasts eager to keep the carmaker Bild said Volkswagen had raised its in British hands, has also said it might seek to top BMW's bid.

BMW promised to preserve the British character of Rolls-Royce if it acquired the luxury carmaker, seeking to ease fears that the venerable Rolls image would be diminished by that of its German parent.

Mr. Pischetsrieder said BMW which already makes engines and best positioned to make Rolls more competitive and increase its sales.

He also again threatened to stop supplying parts to Rolls-Royce if another company bought it, greatly forcing up the cost of producing its

BMW's purchase of Rolls-Royce would be its second foray into the British car market, It took over Rover Group in 1994 in a transaction that has yet to pay off for BMW.

BMW announced Tuesday that Rover had a loss of 260 million DM in 1997, little changed from its loss But he said he did not believe of 279 million DM the year before. BMW plans to keep Rolls-Royce's production site in Crewe. England, as well as its work force. The company said it would have to spend about \$1.6 billion over the next 10 years to increase Rolls production to 6,000 cars a year from the



A GOOD YEAR — Marcel Ospel, left, chief executive of Swiss Bank Corp., and Mathis Cabiallavetta, head of Union Bank of Switzerland, chatting Tuesday in Frankfurt, where they shared the "European Banker of the Year" award.

## Top Court Annuls EU Merger Ruling

BRUSSELS - The European European Commission on Tuesday by annulling a merger decision for

scrapped the commission's 1993 decision that set terms on Kali & Salz GmbH's purchase of MdK, a Ger-

man potash producer. But at the same time, the Luxembourg-based court unequivocally affirmed the authority of the EU antitrust watchdog to ban mergers that would leave the market at the mercy of a few companies.

The court annulled the MdK decision on the grounds that the commission had not proved that the acquisition would give Kali and Societe Commerciale des Potasses et de l'Azote of France joint control (Reuters, Bloomberg) of the potash market that would sig- the 15-nation bloc.

nificantly impede competition. Kali, which is controlled by BASF Union's top court overruled the AG, and SCPA together controlled 60 percent of production at the time.

Some antitrust lawyers did not The European Court of Justice think the ruling would lead to a wave of merger challenges, saying that the Kali case was highly unusual because the conditions had affected third parties.

SCPA and France filed the suit because the commission forced Kali & Salz in 1993 to terminate an export cartel it jointly controlled with SCPA and ruled that SCPA could no longer be the exclusive distributor

for Kali's potash in France. The commission has ruled on about 700 mergers and acquisitions since 1990, when it became the onestop, fast-track agency for corporate deals affecting fair competition in

France's Jobless Total Slips, but Rate Remains at 12.1% it. If so, it would then be signed into law by the president. (Reuters, AP)

## U.K. Retailer Wins the War For Metromail

LONDON - Great Universal Stores PLC won an auction for Metromail Inc. on Tuesday with a bid of \$905 million, strengthening the British retailer's position atop the U.S. marketing-database industry with its third acquisition in three years.

Great Universal Stores' purchase of Metromail, which followed a bidding war with American Business Information Inc., will give it access to the company's consumer lists for direct marketing as well as revenue from other direct marketers that buy the lists, analysts said.

"It makes them No. 1 in the U.S. in consumer data and credit information," said Richard Ratner of Butterfield Securities in London.

The purchase of Metromail follows Great Universal Stores' purchase of Direct Marketing Technology Inc. of the United States last year for \$299 million and its \$1.7 billion purchase of the U.S. credit-data com-

pany Experian Corp. in 1996. Metromail's board approved Great Universal's bid after American Business Information said it could not meet a deadline set by Metromail to prove it would offer a higher bid. American Business Information had originally filed a suit to block the

bid by Great Universal, but this was rejected by the Delaware Chancery Court. The Delaware Supreme Court has requested a hearing on the matter next Wednesday, so Metromail's purchase will not be final until then.

"They're building up consumer information — this is key," said Ken Winston, an analyst at Needham & Co. "Metromail has what is considered to be the deepest and broadest consumer database." with customers such as Procter & Gamble

Co., and AT&T Corp., he added. Metromail's biggest shareholder is its former parent, R. R. Donnelley & Sons Co., which took Metromail public in June 1996 and kept a 38 percent stake. Donnelley has agreed to sell its shares to Great Universal, Metromail posted a loss of \$8.5 million on sales of \$328.4 million last year.

Great Universal has been stepping up acquisitions lately. In addition to buying Experian, it last month made a hostile offer of £1.6 billion for the British retail chain Argos PLC. It also has agreed to buy the French credit-information company SG2 from Societe Generale (Bloomberg, Reuters)

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#### Very briefly:

 Bayerische Vereinsbank AG and Bayerische Hypotheken- & Wechsel-Bank AG, which are merging into Germany's second-largest bank, said combined 1997 profit rose 9 percent to 1.71 billion Deutsche marks (\$932.4 million), reflecting their success in property financing.

• Thyssen AG and Fried. Krupp AG Hoesch-Krupp expect to complete their merger and list shares in the new company by March 1, 1999. The deal will create a German steelmaker with annual sales of 70 billion DM.

• RAO Gazprom, Russia's biggest gas producer, said the government's \$2.1 billion price tag on a 75 percent stake in the oil company RAO Rosneft was too high, but Gazprom said it had not ruled out making a bid.

• Eastern Europe and the ex-Soviet states need a massive overhaul of infrastructure to compete with Western neighbors, officials from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the World Bank and the European Investment Bank said, adding that governments alone could not foot the bill.

• Ludhroke Group PLC's plan to acquire 891 Coral betting shops from Bass PLC is to be examined by the Mergers and Monopolies Commission, which will report by July 7.

• Lucas Varity PLC's 1997 pretax profit rose to £329 million (\$551 million) from £282 million in 1996; the British-American car parts maker said refinancing its debt had put it in a position to make acquisitions worth as much as £1 billion.

• Monument Oil & Gas PLC plans to raise £100 million through a share offer, partly to finance expansion in Iran and Central Asia. The company's second-half profit jumped to £11.6 million from £5.5 million.

 Computacenter Services Group PLC plans to sell 25 percent of its shares on the London Stock Exchange in May in an offering that could value Britain's largest privately held information technology company at as much as £900 mil-

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

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and trimmed the jobless rate by cent unemployment soon." four-tenths of a percentage point. "The drop in unemployment in

tendency seen in the past six months," said Olivier Eluere, an economist at Credit Lyonnais. "We have an economic recovery in France that allows some job-creation, but it is not strong enough to lead to a people unemployed and looking for marked reduction in unemployment. work in France over the past year I don't think we'll go below 12 per-

Separately, Parliament passed a

bill that would cut the legal work February is moderate, in line with the week to 35 hours without a pay cut by 2000. Business leaders oppose the bill, saying it will lead to higher costs and job losses. Some other European countries have criticized the Socialist-backed plan as well.

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The bill will be sent to the Senate. which will discuss the measure next Wednesday and is expected to pass

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■ German Job Losses Seen The German construction industry plans to cut 70,000 jobs this year

because of the sector's poor prospects, the ZDB building industry association said, according to a Reuters report from Bonn. It said 40,000 of the jobs were expected to be lost in Western Germany.

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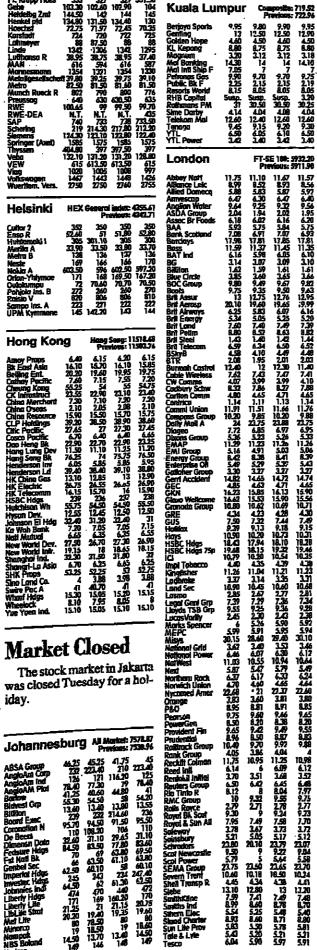
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#### High Low Clase Prev. The Trib Index Prices as of 3.00 P.M. New York Ime. year to date %change World Index + 13.03Europe 227.54 **— 0.04** -- 0.02 + 17.87 249.81 + 2.52 + 1.02 + 15.66 + 2.63 239 252 654 376 405.50 405.50 795 422 208.50 541 213 118.50 118.50 + 16.72 +2.66Capital goods + 1.71 + 13.36 +0.72Consumer goods 237.76 210.13 -0.48-0.23+ 7.78 Energy + 0.03 +0.02Finance +15.00141.41 **—** 1.19 **-** 0.70 + 12.61 Raw Malenal 193.63 + 15.78 200.97 + 0.60 Service + 15.29 -0.35**— 0.19** + 7.69

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12 Mozaffa High Low Stock

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Japan and the United States.

ance, Mr. Walker said.

products," Mr. Lee said. "In these

terms, Thailand may require a five-

quickly upgrade its economy from

national Monetary Fund.

Malaysia charted a differ-

weaker ones, rather than shut-

Ang, an analyst at Caspian Research (Malaysia) Sdn.

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Nonperforming loans at fi-

#### ASIA/PACIFIC

# Thai Data Hurt Hope for Export-Led Recovery

By Thomas Crampton International Herald Tribune

BANGKOK - Bleak statistics brought a dose of reality to Thailand on Tuesday and a warning for the rest of Southeast Asia: Devalued currento the loans necessary to finance procies do not guarantee an export-led

Although the Thai baht had plunged more than 50 percent against the dollar, exports in January dropped by 7.9 percent, the Bank of Thailand said.

The central bank reported the drop in exports even as it ordered tougher accounting standards for Thai banks that will force them to raise capital

"What happened to this story about cheaper goods increasing exports?" said Guonan Ma, head of Asia-Pacific economic research at Salomon Smith Barney. "These numbers show that the economic depression may be deeper than the market thinks."

Mr. Ma said the statistics confirmed that declining imports and weak exports were plagning economies across Southeast Asia despite deep currency devaluations. But he said that the threeday Chinese New Year, which fell in January, may have exaggerated the

similar to those shown in Thailand.

The prime problem facing most of the region's manufacturers is access duction of export goods. Much of Asia's exports consists of products made from imported raw materials and components that are assembled with the help of low-cost labor.

As a collapse of confidence in the region started to spread last July, pulling down currencies and inspiring capital flight, interest rates were progressively raised to keep money from eaving Asia's teetering banks.

For months, Thailand's interbank interest rate has hovered around 20 percent, most of the country's finance companies have been shut by the government, and many banks will not give loans for fear of losing more money. On Tuesday, the central bank an-

nounced tough definitions for bad and substandard loans that will make it even harder for banks to make new loans. The new definitions bring Thai banks closer to international standards but will force them to raise their capital reserves.

Analysts say that Thai banks may

Slate will now have to

spend money to win new

lications, it plans to market

the magazine with ads on oth-

er sites and with targeted e-

"It's very possible that the

Web is just not the place for

publications like Slate that

have a more limited appeal,"

a loyal following among

many people in the news me-

dia and politics, some say the

magazine has yet to develop

can't do that with Slate."

To gain more clout, Mr.

to make the new medium

work for the largest possible

You have to offer them things

And why, in its printed edi-

tion - which has a circu-

lation in the low hundreds —

what they are missing elec-

Slate has also tried to be

movie reviews.

tronically.

While Slate has developed

nonperforming-loan definition and get fully back into trade financing.

Another brake on the easing of credit was applied hours before the central bank announcement by Moody's Investor Services Inc., which downgraded five Thai banks.

The downgrade reflected increased pressures as loan delinquencies rose and the freezing of domestic credit markets forced banks to seek outside investors, Moody's said.

The downgrade will make it more expensive for Bangkok Bank PCL, Krung Thai Bank PCL, Thai Farmers Bank PCL, Siam Commercial Bank PCL and Bank of Ayudhya PCL to raise new capital. Moody's has already given all of the banks - and Thailand itself — junk-bond status, a rating normally reserved for risky corporate

"The whole financial sector has put obstacles in the way of trade, so there will be caps on exports for the next few months until solutions are found," said James Walker, chief economist for Credit Lyonnais Global Emerging Markets.

The solution for building exports auto parts and electronic goods.

#### To Cut Output Other economists raised fears that need to raise as much as 300 billion will have to come in the sexports from Indonesia, Malaysia and baht (\$7.9 billion) in the next three by export banks outside the region. Of D-RAMs Compiled by Our Stoff From Desposehe Thailand recently received credit guar-

TOKYO - Fujitsu Ltd., antees from the export-import banks of Japan's largest computer When Asian leaders come to Lonmaker, said Tuesday it would donnext week, they are almost certain stop making dynamic ran-to suggest that the European Union dom-access memory computer chips in Europe by 2000 extend similar trade financing assistto try to curb losses in its 'Over the next few months, these microchip businesses. Hitafinancing measures should work their chi Ltd. said it was considway through to exports, and these ering doing the same.

Japan Firms

numbers will be seen as a short-lived Fujitsu's plant in Durham, but nasty surprise," Mr. Walker said. England, will stop making D-Other forces holding back the ex-RAM chips — the memory chips most commonly used in port-led recovery of the region include personal computers — by 2000 and concentrate on inflation and a lack of competitiveness, said Jan Lee, chief economist at more sophisticated micro-Hongkong & Shanghai Banking chips for use in consumer Countries can only export their electronic appliances, the company said.

way out only with higher value-added We may just stay on the sidelines and wait and see in year restructuring of the economy to get the full benefits of devaluation." this turbulent situation, as we expanded the scope of pro-He said Thailand had failed to duction a little bit too much in the early 1990s," a Fujitsu spokesman said

labor-intensive industries toward the higher-value-added production of Hitachi said it would gradually cut output at its D-RAM plant near Munich.

Both companies said the plants would shift production to more stable businesses, such as logic integrated circuits and microcontrollers, and that employment would not be affected.

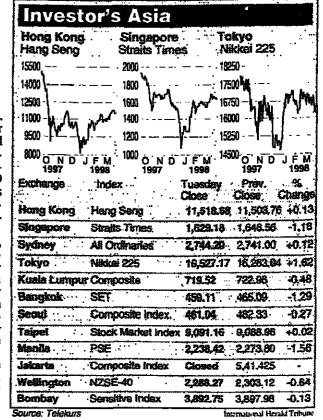
The D-RAM suffered a spectacular price collapse in 1996 and 1997. financial-services and all Japanese chipmakers incurred huge losses in the mainstay 16-megabit chip business.

Analysts say Samsung Electronics Co. of South Korea and NEC Corp. and nance companies may rise to possibly Toshiba Corp. of Japan are likely to lead the production race in next-generation 64-megabit D-RAMs.

Tsutomu Kanai, president customers buy finance of Hitachi, recently said that company planned to concen-Even before the region's trate its D-RAM production in certain overseas plants and wanted fewer and bigger eventually phase out domesbanks and finance companies, tic D-RAM output. NEC, meanwhile, said its to prepare them for stiffer

strategy of producing D-The six anchors are May-RAMs at plants in Britain, the ban Finance Bhd., Hong Le-United States, Japan and ong Finance Bhd., Public Fi-China remained unchanged. nance Bhd., Arab-Malaysian

Finance Bhd., United Mer-1,390 yen (\$10.53) on the chant Finance Bhd. and the Tokyo Stock Exchange, up combined finance units of Di-970. (Bloomberg, Reuters) official said.



#### Very briefly:

• The Bank of Japan's former chief for capital markets, Yasuyuki Yoshizawa, was charged by prosecutors with accepting 4.3 million yen (\$33,000) in the form of wining. dining and golf outings from two banks in return for confidential information, NHK news reported.

 South Korea wrapped up a \$21.8 billion bank debt extension with 123 creditor banks, which agreed to extend 97 percent of eligible foreign debt for as long as three years, removing the threat of default that has hung over the country since the end of 1997.

• Maruti Udyog Ltd., India's joint-venture carmaker with Suzuki Motor Corp., posted an increase of 27.6 percent in net profit for the year ended in March, to \$166.9 million.

PT Gudang Garam, Indonesia's largest cigarette company, said its 1997 net profit rose 38 percent, to a record 906.81 billion rupiah (\$107.3 million), despite the nation's economic crisis.

• Hong Kong's government cut the amount of land it will release for development over the next five years by 8 percent, to 400 hectares (988 acres), following a slump in property prices.

 Japan will allow companies to open self-service gasoline stations, a move that could put as many as half of the nation's full-service gas stations out of business. • Yaohan International Holdings Ltd. fell 76 percent, to

14.8 Hong Kong cents (1.9 U.S. cents), after shares in the troubled Hong Kong retailer resumed trading following a sixmonth suspension. • Duty Free Shoppers HK Ltd., a Hong Kong retailing unit

of LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SA, cut an unspecified number of jobs in the latest lavoffs caused by the Asian slump, sources at the company said. Fujitsu's shares closed at • The International Monetary Fund's deputy managing

director, Stanley Fischer, will return to Jakarta on Thursday to work on the new terms and conditions to be attached to 30, while Hitachi rose 12 to Indonesia's \$43 billion international aid package, an IMF Reuters, AFP, Bloomberg

## **SLATE:** No More Freebies

Continued from Page 11 culation is not truly viable."

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Kinsley said. "It's important to us to break even and to readers, just like print pubbe a business, not someone's charity case.

To Microsoft, the move is not just philosophically im- mail. And given the hurdles portant but financially nec- ahead, Rogers Weed, Slate's essary. Advertisers are pro- publisher, said he is prepared ceeding with caution when it to ultimately accept defeat. comes to Slate because the audience numbers remain relatively low. "It became clear that, on an ad-only basis, it wasn't going to work," said he said. Peter Neupert, Microsoft's vice president of news and

publishing.
"I didn't see it scaling big enough and the ad marketplace accepting it quick real influence. enough to meet our objectives in terms of turning the comer." ' he added.

Slate and Microsoft said they had already received more than 17,000 subscription orders and hoped to reach 20,000 over the next few

But that number is a far cry from the 95,000 circulation audience: how to get people enjoyed by The New Repub- to read long pieces in a fastlic magazine, where Mr. moving medium that you can-Kinsley worked on and off for not easily curl up with on the almost 20 years. Or the couch 218,000 currently enjoyed by "That's our biggest probdirectly served as editor in "You have to reward people."

Total carried and executive editor in Singapore. One to the Web magazine Feed, would have liked to see it initiated by the companies."

Indonesia already has shut

because of the vagaries of In-ternet measurement. In Jam-with its featured weekly ary, when the Monica Lew- poem, film clips with some insky story first broke, the site received 270,000 visits, many from repeat readers.

The current subscriber response gets the magazine to a Slate often reminds readers mere \$340,000 in revenue; Slate's annual operating costs have been estimated at \$5 ber that gets advertisers excited. Slate would not disclose ad revenue figures.

"We're not even talking the second of the secon

disclose ad revenue figures.

"We're not even talking about critical mass here," said

the disclose ad revenue figures.

"Click here for an excerpt from 'Lifting Belly,' Paula Brooks, media director a witty unpublished love at the ad agency Margeotes/ poem she wrote to Alice B. Fertitta & Partners. "A Toklas." magazine with 100,000 cir-

## Last Chapter At Yamaichi

TOKYO - Yamaichi Securities Co., which rocked the financial world by declaring bankruptcy last year, closed its doors Tuesday, officially ending 100 years of operations and becoming the largest Japanese company ever to fail.

The firm, which closed its last 40 branches and left 3,000 people unemployed, collapsed in November under the weight of massive off-the-book losses.

"Mike Kinsley could to be footnotes," said Judith make the earth move with his Shulevitz, Slate's New York column in The New Repubeditor. "But on the Web, they come off as a secondary level lic," said Stephen Smith, editor of National Journal. "He of discourse." Depending on whom you

talk to, Slate's move to paid Kinsley has to figure out how subscriptions is either brave or foolhardy. They may make it be-

cause they have the deep pocket to wait out the market until it matures," said Stefanie Symon, the co-"You have to reward people. paid subscriptions eventually.

Angaben ie Anteit

## **Finance Firms Merged** In Malaysian Shake-Up

KUALA LUMPUR -Malavsia's central bank said ent course. It leaned on the that all 39 of the nation's fi- larger nance companies had agreed groups to absorb smaller, to merge or to be acquired by their parent companies, meet-tering any companies. ing the Tuesday deadline to arrange combinations.

The central bank set the as much as 20 percent this target date for consolidation year, from 13.3 percent at the three months ago in an effort end of last month, said Angie to shore up finance companies against increasing bad debts and a slowing econo- She did not recommend that Malaysia is anxious to

avoid an industry collapse like neighboring Indonesia's. economic crisis, Malaysia Fifteen finance companies will be melded into six so-

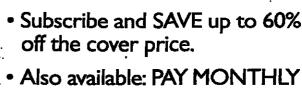
called anchor groups, the central bank said. In addition, two banking groups will acquire a stake in two other finance companies, while 14 companies will be acquired by their parents, mainly commercial banks.

"They needed an iron fist to get them together," said Chong Yoon Chou at Aberdeen Asset Management Asia founder and executive editor Ltd. in Singapore. "One

Microsoft and Slate both banks, and Thailand has How much readership Slate they can't get on paper to has lost since the transition on March 9 is difficult to gauge That is why Slate offers said they expected that bring-closed finance companies to ing the magazine into the black would take patience. comply with terms of emerblack would take patience.

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DIVIDEND NOTICE

At the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders held on March 26, 1998, it has been decided to pay a dividend of US\$ 0.05 per share on or after April 6, 1998 to shareholders of record on March 27, 1998 and to holders of bearer shares upon presentation of coupon

Paying Agent KREDIETBANKS.A. LUXEMBOURGEOISE 43, Boulevard Royal L-2449 Luxembourg



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The Board of Directors

# R.C. Luxembourg B 20095

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The Associated Press

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March 31, 1998

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# SPORTS

## WORLD ROUNDUP

#### Pakistan vs. India

CRICKET For the first time in a decade. Pakistan has agreed to send a team to India for a cricket test. J. Y. Lele, secretary of the Indian cricket board, said Monday that the threetest series would begin Jan. 16.

Political differences and threats by religious militants have hit cricketing relations between the two neighbors, but the two teams have played each other in one-day tournaments in both countries and in other countries. Pakistan last played, and won, a test series in India in 1986 under Imran Khan. (Reuters)

#### Villeneuve Plays the Blues

GRAND PRIX The world champion Jacques Villeneuve on Tuesday criticized both his car's performance and the Williams team's preparations for last Sunday's Brazilian Grand Prix. Both Williams were lapped by the McLarens in Sao Paulo. In his newspaper column, Villeneuve wrote, "I was not best pleased that my FW20 sounded like one of the new guitar pieces that I am learning, and my times confirmed

#### Austrian in Hospital

skiing The Austrian Gunther Mader, who retired from Alpine skiing three weeks ago, will remain in hospital for two to three weeks after suffering acute blood flow problems in his brain. A doctor at the Innsbruck University Clinic said the 34-year-old would not have to undergo surgery. It was unclear whether the runner-up for the overall World Cup title in 1995 and 1996 had suffered a stroke. (Reuters)

#### A Coach for Cameroon

SOCCER Claude Le Roy, director of sport at French club Paris St. Germain, has accepted an offer to coach Cameroon during the World Cup finals, the club announced Tuesday. Coach Jean Onguene quit after Cameroon's disappointing performance in the recent African Nations Cup.

#### Kwan in Top Form

FIGURE SKATING Michelle Kwan confirmed her status as the women's favorite by delivering a nearly perfect performance in qualifying at the World Figure Skating Championships in Minneapolis. The Olympic silver medalist earned a string of 5.9s from the judges for her long program and easily won her qualifying group. pinski, is not competing, having decided to pass up a chance to defend her world title. (Reuters)



long program in Minneapolis.

Nose down, the Leeds United plane lying on a Stansted runway Tuesday.

## **Leeds United Team Safe** After Fire Aborts Takeoff

LONDON - Members of Leeds United, one of Britain's major soccer teams, escaped injury Tuesday when their chartered plane crash-landed after

the pilot aborted a takeoff after the right engine caught fire.

It was a terrifying reminder of an air disaster 40 years ago that wiped out much of the Manchester United team. The plane, which had climbed only 150 feet (45 meters), overshot the runway as it touched down. The nose wheel collapsed as the craft came to a stop

about 300 feet from the perimeter fence

at Stansted Airport, north of London. Aboard the plane were a crew of 4 and 40 passengers, including 18 players. Leeds United players and officials jumped out of the burning plane after it nosed into grass at the end of the runway. Some told of jumping 15 feet to the

ground from the back door. The only member of the Leeds party to be injured was an assistant manager, David O'Leary, who hurt his shoulder.

'Just as we got off the ground there was a fire in the right-side engine and as we got higher there was an explosion."
O'Leary said. "All of a sudden it was like a roller-coaster. We dipped and hit

Leeds United had chartered the plane

from Emerald Airways, based in Belfast, to take the team back to northern England after it lost a match against the London club West Harn.

Peter Ridsdale, chairman of the Premier League club, said: "Everyone on board could see the flames and the explosion and everyone seemed to be shouting: 'Fire! There's a fire!'

"It was dark. Our biggest fear was we knew we were well off the ground but what we weren't sure was what was in front of us.

"The flames were intense," he con-tinued. "I could feel the heat through the windows.

Melvyn Seymour, the duty manager at Stansted, said: "I would think that they had another 30 seconds before there would have been a major fire." The crash brought back memories of the Munich disaster in 1958 when a

ers crashed and burst into flames on Eight young players were killed, wiping out the cream of what many believed would have been Britain's greatest club

plane carrying Manchester United play-

Despite the crash, Leeds said Tuesday that it planned to go ahead with the scheduled match against Barnsley on

# Soccer's Politicians Playing It Safe

ONDON - In a perfect world, the pulse beat of the international soccer aficionado would be rising. He or she would be lured this Wednesday toward Stadio delle Alpi or the Bernabeu to see if Alessandro Dei Piero or Roberto Carlos can produce marvelous goals for Juventus and Real Madrid. If they do, then with respect to Monaco and Borussia Dortmund we might be half way toward a UEFA Champions' League final to stand with the very best in European Cup history.

And when that is cut and dried, the supporter could turn to June when maybe the same individuals - or possibly the artistry of Ronaldo for Latin America, Zidenine Zidane for Europe, Nwanko Kanu for Africa or Saeed Al-Owairan for Asia - will transcend the

World Cup.

That, ideally, is what a sport is: a communion between those who pay and those who play.

How divorced from the reality of our times. This week began in England with death outside a soccer ground and with pitch invasions at separate matches where enraged fans apparently tried to assault the referees, but were rugby-tackled to the ground by vigilante players.

Because of this, the cry to bring

back the fences, the dehumanizing steel cages separating fans from fields. is raised again. Because of this, Vicenza, a pleasing town in Italy, is being turned into a police garrison for Thurs-day's visit of Chelsea in the Cup Winners' Cup. Vicenza's night of sporting romance is dampened by a lock-upyour-daughters mentality, by strict or-ders that no alcohol will be allowed with dinner anywhere in the province.

If that is sad, if the joy in sport is compromised, then so be it. Italian authorities have no choice but to play safe after menacing English behavior provoked ugly police baton charges when England's national team visited Rome last fall. The forces of law and order allegedly have intelligence warnings of pre-arranged violence in-volving ticketless Chelsea fans and notorious hot-heads from Vicenza's neighboring Verona.

But, I hear you cry, tell us about the PLAY, enthuse us with the games on WORLD SOCCER/ ROB HUGHES

offer. I will, a little bit. Getting there, however, is a hazard, as Leeds United players discovered when their plane crash-landed in London on Tuesday. Shaken, but miraculously not hurt, the team was brought abruptly to the conclusion that winning and losing is not the be-all of life. They had lost the game, they came close to losing much more, and they became aware that players control or influence very little.

So it is in the business of sport. The World Cup involves players from 32 countries, millions of spectators, thousands of workers, and hundreds of planners. Three of the men who hold sighest office for the safe running of this World Cup, men whose minds should be concentrated on the day-today detail and the adjustments that may become necessary when incidents like those in England forewarn them, have put themselves in compromised

Lennart Johansson, chairman of the World Cup organizing committee, combines that task with his duties as president of UEFA, the European body for soccer. He also, two years ago, declared his intent to stand for the presidency of FIFA, the ultimate soccer anthority, when Joao Havelange retires on the eve of the June World Cup.

N Monday, however, Sepp Blatter, the full-time general secretary and chief executive of FIFA, declared himself an opponent for the presidency. Furthermore, Michel Platini, France's most famous former player and currently co-president of the host committee for the World Cup, announced that he has a pact with Blatter to become "sports director" should the Swiss defeat Johansson at the summer poll.

So we have arguably the three most important men in the organization distracted, to say the least. Insults flow. The Blatter-Havelange faction called Johansson "Germany's puppet" because he is committed to a European agreement supporting Germany's bid to play host for the 2006 World Cup. Johansson repaid the compliment ac-cusing Blatter of being "Havelange's pupper." And Platini threw open the French World Cup offices, and used its Times of London.

staff, to host Blatter's inaugural presidential campaign speech.

Blatter, in the name of fair play, has removed himself from FIFA House in-Zurich. He continues to accept his salary, but to avoid conflicts of interest works from home, entrusting some of his day-to-day responsibilities to his deputy, Michel Zen-Ruffinen.

AVELANGE, meanwhile, has written to the 198 FIFA nations that they can rest assured the general secretary is in full control. But he has ruled for 24 years without fore-seeing the danger of his own succession that, with ill-timing, preoccupies the most able men in the organization on the run-in to a World Cup larger. and therefore more difficult to manage, than any before it.

We are going to bear an awful lot of canvassing, of politicking in the next 10 weeks. The protagonists will need to be global travelers — for example, to the Asian Confederation gathering in Kuala Lagrang this growth Meuld is in Kuala Lumpur this month. Would it not make sense for them to agree on one thing, to step aside and ler those who can devote all their energies to the daily problems that challenge a successful World Cup in June?

For the rest of us, there are games to go to. Juventus has re-emerged strong in the Spring, its forwards Del Piero and Filipo Inzaghi suddenly rampant goalscorers, and it is hard to see Monaco, for all coach Jean Tigana's clever deployment of relatively lesser talents, surprising the mighty Italian club on Wednesday.

Less one-sided is Real Madrid, sometimes negligent in the league but beguiling on European nights, against Borussia Dortmund. The German team beat Juventus in last year's Champions' Cup Final and, despite horrendous injury lists, continues to show more appetite and pedigree for Europe than domestic fare. It is a personal impression that Real Madrid is geared to reclaiming glory that was lost 30 years ago, and that it will have to defeat Juventus in a classic finale in May to achieve it.

MEBOAR

Rob Hughes is on the staff of The

## With Rios at No. 1, Tennis Fans See Speed and Finesse Defeat Power

By Steve Harrison Washington Post Service

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida - The is a finesse player, which makes him a throwback in today's power game.

Marcelo Rios, a 5-foot-9, 140-pound (1.75-meter, 63-kilogram) Chilean, who makes up for his lack of size with speed and cunning, is the first South American to hold the top spot since the Asso-ciation of Tennis Professionals started the ranking system in 1973, as well as the shortest player to reach the No. 1.
Rios climbed atop the rankings by

defeating Andre Agassi in the final of the Lipton Championships over the weekend. When the rankings came out Monday, he had knocked Pete Sampras from No. 1, a spot Sampras had held for 102 consecutive weeks.

Rios, 22, has a tough forehand and can get from one place to another very quickly. He never seems to be chasing the ball, only shrewdly deciding where to place it. His serve isn't very fast, but it is accurate. On Sunday, he had 12 aces and kept Agassi — one of the game's best returners — on his heels.

Because he is left-handed and small, Rios and his style of play have been called deceptive.

"I never though we'd see a player as good as Marcelo after Chang," Agassi

another dimension to tennis. He really

Rios, whose father is a civil engineer and whose mother is a teacher, grew up in Santiago playing soccer, which may explain his quick feet. He began playing tennis when he was 9, later than most current professional players.

After winning the 1993 U.S. Open

uniors title, he turned professional the following year. In 1995, he finished No. 25 and won events in Bologna, Italy, and in Amsterdam and Kuala Lumpur. He was No. 11 in 1996 and No. 10 last year. His breakthrough match came last year when he reached the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open, where he lost to Chang in five sets.

Rios, who learned to play on red clay, once was a weak hardcourt player but is now a threat on any surface. This year, his record is 25-3 - all on hardcourts. He won titles in Indian Wells, California, two weeks ago and here in Florida on Sunday. The biggest improvement in his game has been serving. His percentage of service games won has jumped to 87.5 percent, the fourth-best on the tour, from 81 percent.

His rise has brought scrutiny of his on- and off-court behavior, which has made opponents bristle. He has a repu-

said, referring to Michael Chang, who is also small and very quick. "He brings being rude to fans and opponents."

also the fourth left-handed No. 1; McEnroe, Jimmy Connors

forces you to think, forces you to move, forces you to execute."

coached John McEnroe, a player similar others.

Rios. Both are left-handed, both are small, and both can be moody. "He's not going to be gregarious in the locker room," Stefanki told the Miami Herald. "He's very cut and dried. That's why we're still together.'

Rios is the second player to become No. 1 without winning a Grand Slame event. Ivan Lendl reached the top spot in 1983 and later won eight majors. Rios's best opportunity to win a Grand Slam tournament came in this year's Australian Open, in which he reached the final but was routed by Petr Korda.

"Maybe this moment I'm playing better than everyone." Rios said. "But I don't feel like I'm really good, and everyone has a chance to beat me.

But Rios may not be No. 1 for long. Samoras, who trails Rios by 51 points — 3,651 to 3,600 — plays next week in Hong Kong. If he reaches the semifinals there, he will regain his top spot, because Rios won't play again until about two weeks from now, in Barcelona, Sampras and Rios, in fact, could be moving in and out of the No. 1 spot for the next several weeks.

Rios is the 14th player to reach No. 1 since the ATP Tour began its rankings in 1973 and the sixth-youngest. He is

Rios's coach is Larry Stefanki, who and Thomas Muster were the

of Argentina was the highestranked South American player. He was No. 2 in 1978.

## **■** Capriati Crashes Out

Jennifer Capriati, a former Top 10 player, was ousted in the first round of the Family Circle Cup by 148th-ranked Lori McNeil, The Associated Press reported from Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

"I just didn't play that well in my book today," Capriati said Monday after losing 6-7 (7-4), 6-4, 6-4 to McNeil. There were a lot of things l could have done but didn't."

Capriati was playing in only her second match of the year after being sidelined for two months by elbow and shoulder injuries. In her first match of the year March 19 at the Lipton Championships, she lost to Magdalena Grzybowska in the first round.

experience to regain her consistency. Three of the six seeds who played on the tournament's opening day lost their

Capriati said she needed more match



Marcelo Rios, South America's first No. 1.

first-round matches.

No. 11 seed Sandrine Testud lost 6-3, 6-3 to Ruxandra Dragomir, No. 12 seed Anke Huber fell 7-5, 7-6 (7-5) to Magui Serna, and 13th seed Ai Sugiyama was ousted 2-6, 7-5, 6-4 by Alexandra Fusai.

## Baseball's Payroll Plays

## Can a \$30 Million Team Beat a \$70 Million One?

By Murray Chass

MIAMI - As part of the opening game ceremonies at Pro Player Sta-dium, the Florida Marlins were to raise the World Series championship flag on Tuesday. Maybe they should fly it at half-staff in memory of half the World Series team that is no longer there.

The new-look Marlins were to open the season against a team that should serve as an object lesson to them. When the Chicago Cubs won the World Series in successive seasons, they and their fans probably thought that success would come often. Ninety years later, they are still waiting for their next

World Series championship. The Marlins, shorn in a payroll purge of \$20 million and 12 of their World Series players, were not the only new team opening the season Tuesday. Maior League Baseball was to officially become a 30-team entity when the Tampa Bay Devil Rays open against the Detroit Tigers across the state at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg. Meanwhile, the Arizona Diamondbacks were to begin life against the Colorado Rock-

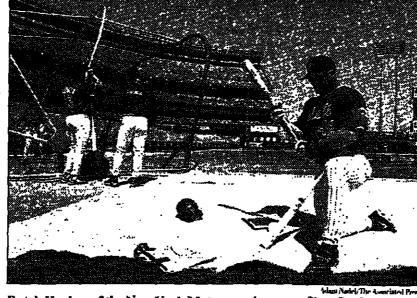
ies at Bank One Ballpark in Phoenix. For the first time, one league, the National, has 16 teams. They include the Milwaukee Brewers, who after 28 years in the American League have become the first team in this century to change leagues. The Brewers, who are part of the six-team Central Division, were to begin their new life against the Braves in Atlanta.

The Braves, who played in Milwaukee before the Brewers, will begin their quest for their seventh successive division crown. They are part of an elite class of teams that through sheer expenditure of money have established themselves as perennial playoff participants.

Another one of those teams, the Cleveland Indians, demonstrated that method again Monday, acquiring the righthander Dave Burba and his \$2.8 million salary from the Cincinnati Reds, for whom he had been scheduled to start Tuesday's opener.

The Baltimore Orioles, who by setting their 25-man roster Monday attained the first \$70 million payroll in baseball history (\$70,068,134), have been in the playoffs the past two seasons. The teams with the next three highest payrolls — the Yankees, the Indians and the Braves - have been

there each of the past three Octobers. All four teams are expected to reach the playoffs again this season, leaving room for only four other teams, including just one in the American League. Does that mean there is no room for surprises any more? Can Anaheim, at about \$40 million, beat out Seattle and



Butch Huskey of the New York Mets warming up at Shea Stadium.

Texas, whose payrolls start with a 5? Can Toronto, which is just shy of that level,

beat out the Orioles or the Yankees? Can the Brewers go into their new league and steal a division championship with a payroll in the low \$30 million range when the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago Cubs are in the low 50s? Can San Francisco win the West again when Colorado, Los Angeles and

San Diego have wealthier players? That, of course, is why teams play a 162-game schedule. The first 11 of 2,430 games were

scheduled to be Philadelphia against the Mets at Shea Stadium in uncharacteristically warm weather that is reminiscent of spring training. The Yankees, with a game in Anaheim, are one of six American League teams that will open their seasons Wednesday.

The Arizona Diamondbacks' opener will mark the return to the dugout of Buck Showalter, who last managed a game that counted in 1995. He managed the Yanks then, and the game was Game 5 of the first-round playoff against the Mariners. The Yankees lost the game, and a couple scheduled for Tuesday, with the first of weeks later they lost Showalter.

## Rangers Feel the Lowly Sting As Lightning Lash Out, 3-1

By Tarik El-Bashir New York Times Service

NEW YORK - They lost a top player, then lost to a team at the bottom of the league. It was that kind of day for the New York Rangers, the lowest point in a season full of lows.

First the Rangers' second-leading scorer, Pat LaFontaine, was ordered to call it a season because of a head injury he sustained two weeks ago. Then his teammates pretty much called it a season, too, losing by 3-1 to the Tampa Bay

NHLROUNDUP

Lightning on Monday night and failing to pick up ground on Ottawa for the last layoff spot in the Eastern Conference. With eight games to play in the regular season, the Rangers trail the eighthplace Senators by 7 points.

'The whole season has been similar to this." said Brian Leetch, the Rangers' captain.

The sting for the Rangers was losing at home to a team that has won only 17 of 72 games and to a 21-year-old rookie goaltender, Zac Bierk, who shut them out for more than 58 minutes in achieving his first NHL victory. Meanwhile, the Rangers' rookie goaltender, Dan Cloutier, was given a 1-0 lead, but was replaced in the first minute of the third period after allowing Tampa Bay's third

The news regarding LaFontaine diminished somewhat whatever importance the game might have had for the Rangers. For LaFontaine, this is the second consecutive season cut short because of a concussion.

In other games, The Associated Press

reported: Bruins 4, Avalanche 1 The host Boston Bruins got two goals from Anson Carter and two gifts from Colorado players. Tim Taylor's clearing pass from his own zone during a Colorado power play hopped by the Avalanche goalie, Patrick Roy. Before Taylor's miscue gave Boston a 4-0 lead at 2:51 of the second period. Carter had his two goals and a Colorado defenseman, Uwe Krupp, had

shot the puck into his own net. Kings 3, Maple Leafs 2 In Toronto, Russ Courtnall's shorthanded goal with 1:39 remaining put an end to Toronto's comeback plans and dampened the

Maple Leafs' playoff hopes. Blues 6, Sharks 2 in St. Louis, Terry Yake had a goal and an assist during a four-goal second period, and Brett Hull picked up three assists to help the Blues

beat San Jose. Oilers 3, Flames 1 In Edmonton, Todd Marchant scored two goals as the Oilers moved into a tie for seventh place in the Western Conference.

حيكذا من الاعل

## **SPORTS**

# **Clawing the Title Back**

Wildcats Escape 10-Point Hole to Beat Utes

By Jack Curry New York Times Service

SAN ANTONIO - The giddy Kentucky Wildcats stood on a makeshift podium, which was appropriately draped in blue, as in Kentucky blue.

The players wore new white T-shirts and new white hats that naturally designated them as the national champions after they rallied to squash Utah, 78-69, at

the Alamodome. It was a classic college basketball scene Monday night. There was Jeff Sheppard, who chose not to play last season because he did not want to be a reserve, waving to the loyal fans. There was

Scott Padgett, who once

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flunked out of Kentucky, hugging everyone he could get close to. There was Tubby Smith, the head coach who became a hero by winning a championship in his first year, grabbing a microphone and turning from gracious

to gregarious. "These players worked all year to prove themselves," Smith said. "They deserve to be called the national

Redemption was very sweet and very quick for Kentucky, which avenged losing to Arizona in college basketball's marquee event a year ago and won the school's second title in three seasons. It was the Wildcats' seventh overall, second only to UCLA's 11. Kentucky found baskerball nirvana by coming back in the second half from a 10-point deficit — the largest hole a team has ever climbed out of to win a title game with defense, depth and deadly

shooting. "We all played poised," the Wild-cats' Heshimu Evans said. "We know not to give up. We stayed positive. We came back. We're a fighting team, the

Kentucky (34-4), a team filled with talent yet without one real superstar, happiest for the team."

finished a glorious season by winning its final 13 games. Utah (30-4) had a 4point lead with less than six minutes left, but the weary Utes could not win their first championship since 1944. "They whipped us and they're No. 1," said the Utah coach, Rick Majerus. "But we were 1A. I hope our kids remember that we were No. 2 in the whole country.

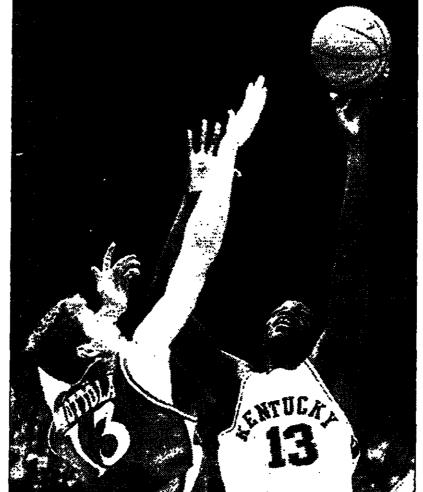
After pressuring Andre Miller (16 points), double-teaming Michael Doleac (15) and chasing the Utes for most of the game, the Wildcats took the lead for good as Cameron Mills drained a 3-pointer and Sheppard hit a twisting 8-footer along the right baseline to make it 65-64 with 4

minutes 53 seconds left, Utah had scored 6 straight to snatch a 64-60 lead, but Kentucky responded and the Utes were spent. "They outplayed us down the stretch," Doleac said. "They deserved to

Jamaal Magloire blocked Doleac's shot and Miller missed a lay-up during Utah's next critical possession. As Kennucky kept pushing, Utah was in the midst of missing 11 straight shots and hobbling through the last 5:53 with one meaningless field goal with five seconds left. Magloire and Wayne Turner each made two free throws while Miller made

one for Utah as the Wildcats extended the lead to 70-66 with 1:28 left. Allen Edwards turned the ball over with 55 seconds left to give the Utes one last chance. It vanished as Evans blocked Miller's 3-point try with 45 secs vds left, giving the Wildcats control of the ball and the game. Padgett, who scored 17 points, made two free throws and Evans. who had 10, nailed two to make it 74-

"Praise the Lord for the opportunity to be here and the opportunity to be with my teammates," said Sheppard, who scored 16 and was named the Final Four's most outstanding player. "I'm



Nazr Mohammed of the Wildcats scoring over the Utes' Hanno Mottola.

## Ndiaye Apologizes for Charge of Racial Slur

Washington Post Service

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Makhtar Ndiaye, the University of North Carolina center, has recanted his charge that a Utah player used a racial slur during the national basketball championship semifinal game, and he apologized for making the accusation. But Ndiaye maintained that he did

not spit on Utah forward Britton

Johnsen, as Johnsen alleged after the

Utes' 65-59 victory on Saturday. On Monday, the North Carolina coach, Bill Guthridge, and Ndiaye met for about 15 minutes in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, then issued a written apology to Johnsen, Rick Majerus, the University of Utah coach and the entire Utes team. Johnsen said that he accepted the apology.

## It's a Cinderella Story, **But Starring Kentucky**

By Michael Wilbon Washington Post Service

AN ANTONIO — Why should the final game have been any different from all that preceded it? Why shouldn't the NCAA championship game have come down, so appropriately, to a final eight minutes full of lead changes, dramatic shots, pres-

sure free throws and soaring blocks?
To get their seventh NCAA basketball championship, the Kentucky Wild-cats had to pull off their third straight

#### VANTAGE POINT

second-half, double-digit comeback on Monday night. And this one came against a bgger, stronger, more talented opponent than most people wanted to

acknowledge. This is one of the few Kentucky basketball teams that is completely without a star player. But Coach Tubby Smith convinced the players many games ago they don't need one. So the Wildcats calmly got huge contributions from Cameron Mills, a reluctant shooter, Jamaal Magloire, their backup center, and Heshimn Evans, their sixth-leading scorer. It added up the way it has all season, to a Kentucky victory, 78-69, over Utah, which for most of the game looked more like the Big Bad Wolf than

A nearly six-minute scoreless stretch undid everything Utah had put together during the first 31 minutes. But Kentucky, as Duke and Stanford found out previously, is one great counterpuncher

coming off the ropes. When the Utes extended their lead to a dozen points over Kentucky early in the second half, it looked as if the championship game might follow the same script as Utah's previous victories.

That's when Evans, a 32 percent three-point shooter, quickly ran off eight points, including two three-pointers, to reduce a 45-33 Utah lead to 50-45. It was also Evans, a 6-foot-6 junior. Miller's three-point attempt with Ken-

tucky clinging to a 70-66 lead. Instead of just making Miller take a tougher shot, Evans blocked it. And the Wildcats prolonged Utah's scoring drought, choking off any chance Utah had of winning a game it had controlled

for so long. Having trailed in its previous two games, Kentucky seemed to have its comeback thing down pat. Kentucky's resourcefulness and Utah's fatigue seemed to determine the outcome in the end. That the Wildcats could be dominated early and adjust dramatically late said volumes about Kentucky, and

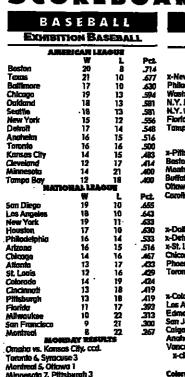
about how good a team Utah is. The notion that Utah was some big underdog is the most preposterous thing imaginable. We're talking about a team that opened the season by winning a school-record 18 straight games. The Utes didn't lose a game until Feb. 1. They entered Monday night's game 30-3. Kentucky was ranked No. 5 in the final

regular season polls; Utah was No. 7. A seventh-ranked team is now Cinderella? If you go simply by the talent, Utah easily could have been the

favorite coming into the game.
Utah's Michael Doleac, 6-11 and 265 pounds of rock, could very well be the first player selected in the NBA draft. Utah's 6-10 Hanno Mottola, a sharpshooting sophomore who was probably the best pure athlete on the floor. But the Utes needed a much bigger lead than that against this Kentucky team, and

they appeared too tired to build one. Kentucky, meanwhile, seemed to have plenty of energy, plenty of bounce for those final minutes. Perhaps it was knowing the Wildcats had lost so many players from Rick Pitino's championship team two years ago, and still more from Pitino's NCAA runner-up team last season, but found a way to get back to the championship game anyway. Maybe enough people didn't appreciate the team that really had the storybook

## SCOREBOARD

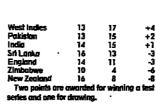


icees 12. San Diego State 3

First Period: B-Carter 11 (Heinze, Allison) 2, B-Carter 12, 3, B-Khristich 27, (pp). Second Period: B-Taylor 18 (Bourque) (sh). 5, C-Lemleux 22 (Messler, Korri) (pp). Third Period: None. Starts on good: C-9-S-6—20. B-16-9-4—29, Goatles: C-Roy. B-Oafoe. 0 2 1—3
1 0 9—1
First Perjad: New York. Kovalev 20
(Sundstrom, Gretzky) Second Perjad: TBonsignore 2 (Renberg, Andersson) 3 TAndersson 5 (Renberg, Cross) Third Perjad:
T-Andersson 6 (Renberg, Bansignore). Sborts
u goal: T-4-10-6—20. New York, 6-4-14—24.
valles: T-Bierk. New York. Clouffer, sectifier.
\[ \text{Angeles} \]

Toronto 1 8 2—3
Toronto 9 1 1—2
First Period: L.A.-Murray 25 (O'Donnell)
Second Period: T-Cole 3 (Sundin.
M.Johnson) (pp). Third Period: L.A.-Gelley 7
(Murray: Streenel) (np.). Al. A. Coutroull 10 (Murray, Stumpel) (pp). 4. L.A.-Courtnell 19 (Zmolek) (sh). 5. T-Clark 10 (Karoley, State S.J.-Matteou 13 (Marchiner) 8, S.L.-McAlpine 2 (Turgeon, Hall) Shats on goal: S.L.- 4-6-11-21, S.L.- 6-11-12-29, Goalies:

Calgary B 1 6—1
Ethnorden 2 0 1—3
First Period: E-McAmmond 16 (Hamriti.
Weight) (oph. 2, E-Marchord 9, (sth.), Second
Period: C-Potrick 5 (Iginia, Bouchard) Third
Period: E-Marchord 10 (Buchberger) Shots
on godi: C- 5-8-8—21. E- 11-10-17—38.
Geatles: C-Taborocci. E-Joseph.



BASKETBALL NBA STANDINGS FAIL DAVISION

55 17 ,164

49 22 ,690

45 26 ,634

42 28 ,600

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34 38 ,472

30 41 ,423

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.746 .718 .653 .563 .356 y-Seattle y-L.A. Lokers y-Phoenix y-Portland 55 47 49 26

Men's NCAA THE FINAL FOUR
DAY IN SAN ANTORIO, TEXAS
FIOMAL CHAMPIONSHIP
Kentucky 78, Uteh 69

#### GOLF PRESSPENTS COP

Standings for Presidents Cup Match to be played Dec. 11-13 at Royal Melbourne Golf Club in Melbourne, Australia. U.S. player points are based on official money earnings from start of 1997 sesson to World Series of Golf. International team will be determined by Official World Randing at conclusion of World Series of Golf, and will not include any player eligible for Europeen Ryder Cup

2. Tiger Woods 3,246,804 3. David David 3,083,719 11. Billy Mayfair 1,629,142 12. Stewart Cink 1,446,042 13. John Huston 1,444,820

## 5. Vijay Singh. Fijl. 6.46 6. Frank Nobilo. New Zeland, 5.08 7. Steve Eškington, Australia, 4.97 8. Mark McNuity, Zimbabwe, 3.95 9. Shigeki Maruyama, Japan. 3.71 10. Craig Parry, Australia, 3.25 11. Joe Ozaki, Japan, 3.16 12. Stuart Appleby, Australia, 3.03

#### SOCCER Dictish Prince Leacue

STANDANGS: Manchester United 63
points: Arsenal 57; Liverpool 54; Chelsea,
Leeds, Blackburn, 48; West Hama 47; Derby 45;
Coventry, Southampton 43; Aston Villa 42;
Leicester 40; Sheffield Wednesday 37;
Wimbledon, Newcostle 35; Tottenham 34;
Everion 33; Barnsley 31; Bolton 30; Crystal

13. Refiref Goosen, South Africa, SAI 2.86 14. Robert Allenby, Australia, 2.77 15. David Frost, South Africa, 2.68

## TRANSITIONS

AMAHEMA—Acquired INF Croig Shipley from St. Louis for INF Chip Hote. Signed INF Carlos Gorda. Bought controls of OF Domen Mashore and INF Fromk Bolick from Vancouver, PCL Optioned OF Orlando and. INF Steve Scarsone and OF Gary Thur-

man to vancauser. Put the Caris Prinches on 15-day disabled list.

Bostoin—Signed RHP Jin Ho Cho.

CHICAGO—Designated SS Beniji GB, 28 Sergio Nunez and P Bryan Ward for assignment.

Bought contracts of SS Mike Caroso, OF Lou

Frazier, OF Ruben Sierra from Caligary, PCL.

Optioned C Robert Machado, RHP Bill Simos

and PHP Netser Care to Calador.

CALVIN AND HOBBES

Gooden on 15-day distabled list, retroactive to March 26. Put C Ron Kartavicce on 15-day disabled list. Bought contracts of C Par Bor-ders and INF Jeff Manto from Akron, EL. OAKLAND—Bought contracts of C A.J. Hirtch, C 1227 Molina, INF Jassen Wood and OF Kevin Mitchell from Edmonton, PCL. Op-tioned OF Ryon Christerson to Edmonton. Put RHP Willia Adams, INF Miguel Tejada, INF Kurt Abbott and OF Britan Lesher on 15-day disobled fist, retroactive to March 22. Put C George Williams on 60-day disobled list, retroactive to March 22. SEATTLE-Cloimed OF Robert Perez off

retrocitive to March 22.

stat71LE—Colmed OF Robert Perez off wakers from Toranto Jays. Recalled Off charles Gipson from Tacoma. PCL. Bought contract of RHP Jim Buildinger from Tacoma. Optioned RHP Felipe Lint to Tacoma. Put OF Rob Ducey on 15-day disabled fist, retroactive to March 27. Put RHP Raficel Carmona on 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 22. Put LHP Tim Davis and OF Rout Ibamez on 60-day disabled list.

TAMPA BAY—Bought contract of RHP Ro-lando Arrojo from Durham, IL. TEXAS—Bought contract of OF Mike Simus from Oldahomo, PCL. Announced LHP Larry

CHICASO—Bought contracts of LHP Terry Mulholiand and RHP Ben VonRyn from Iowa, PCL. Optioned P Kurt Miller, P Alan Mohaffey, OF Terrell Lowery and OF Pedro

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

MSA—Fined Houston Rockets Barkley \$10,000 for his critical co

MONTREAL—Claimed C Milke Hubbard off warkers firm Chicago Cubs. Optioned C Rau! Chavez, LHP Steve Kline and RHP Carl Povano to Ottawa, IL. Released OF Chuck Carr. Put C Bob Hentiey on 15-day disabled list. Bought controcts of RHP Milke Maddax, SS Milke Mondecol, INF Scott Livingstone and OF Derrick May from Oftowa.

NEW YORK—Bought contracts of C Tim Spehr and C-OF Jim Tathm. Transferred LHP Hector Mercado from 15-day disabled list to 60-day disabled list.

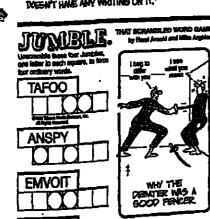
57. Louis—Put RHP Alam Benes, LHP

on 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 24. Optioned RHP Brady Raggio, RHP Curits

Stigned 1 B Brian Hunter. Bought contracts of RHP Braden Looper and RHP Cliff Politie from Ankansas, TL. Announced 1B Chris



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## Swoon River Anthology

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — Juliet Capulet, they say, was 14 when she lost her heart to Byron! Romeo Montague. According to the 1996 movie about that to 14-year-olds, of course, deaffair, Romeo looked exactly like Leonardo DiCaprio, the romantic lead in "Titanic."

Hordes of modern Juliets, brand new to puberty, are so whatever age are powerless to fetched by the maritime manifestation of DiCaprio that they sit through "Titanic" again and again to be with ter? For the DiCaprios of the him before the cold Atlantic world. For the Sinatras, the asserts its irresistible claim to Liszts, the Byrons. his charms.

Friends tell me of 14-yearolds who have already seen

me from age 14.
The DiCaprio phenomenon is not new, however. "Good Will Hunting"? With Frank Sinatra — believe it or not. kiddies and boomers, Frank Sinatra! — once had with a friendly 16-year-old the power to reduce adoles- face and a winsome smile. cent girls to such quivering.

come calling.
The Beatles had the same effect on young girls of the boomer generation. By that time. Dad, having fallen under the influence of Dr. Spock, had put the shotgun away and contented himself with asking Mom to make sure Daughter didn't go out without her pill.

Thus arrived the age of the "groupie." a polite synonym for "camp follower." connoting a very young woman available for corybantic frenzies with stars of the performing arts, including sports.

DiCaprionic powers do not even begin with modern show business. Franz Liszt, the

greatest pianist of the mid-19th century, was said to have been so irresistible that he could have had any woman in Europe. And what about Lord

The desire to be irresistible clines in most men as they hit the age of 17, but even beyond the frosted age of 30 one would like to think that women of gaze upon him without feeling disturbing internal flutterings.

But for whom do they flut-

There is no explanation for the movie six times. Six this unless - God forbid! times! I gape in wonder at the we drag in old Grandfather emotional chasm separating Freud. Why are 14-year-olds flocking to see "Titanic" time and again but not to see

He is practically intergun handy at the front door for use should Sinatra ever come calling. changeable with DiCaprio, settle into their eyes.

Is it because Matt gets the girl in the end while Leonardo succumbs to hypothermia? An early death always tugs romantic heartstrings more sweetly than getting the girl, provided the death isn't happening to you or somebody you know.

Still, most young male sex objects do not die, but live on until new crops of 14-yearold girls can only marvel that grandmother ever swooned over such relics. Even in their rocking chairs, of course, relics have the memories. Most of us don't.

# Family's Tales of China Carry Playwright to Fame

By Bruce Weber New York Times Service

OS ANGELES -- It was a great event in the life of a small theater company, a first night in a terfly" in 1988. Takei reminded brand-new space. It was a great the audience that "M. Butterfly" night for a playwright whose newest play is about to open a continent away. And it was a great night for the playwright's family, particularly his immigrant parents, who saw their legacy engraved in stone. Indeed, more than anything, this is a family story.

eminent Asian-American theater troupe, had been estimably slogging away in a cramped 99-seat

formance of "Pacific Overtures," the 1976 Stephen Sondheim-Hugh Wheeler musical about the Westemization of Japan, in its new 220seat home just a few blocks away. The audience had been enthu-

siastic. Spirits were high.

The theater, at the Union Center for the Arts, in a comfortably refurbished church once used as a registration center for Japanese-American internment camps dur-ing World War II, was filled with benefactors and well wishers.

Onstage, George Takei, a board member (better known as Sulu from "Star Trek"), introduced the playwright, David Henry Hwang. Hwang was 8 when his mother, Dorothy, as the piano player for an East West production of "The Medium" by Gian Carlo Menotti, took her son to rehearsals and in so doing introduced him to the world

plays have been produced at East

His latest project, though, is bound for a bigger stage, the Longacre Theatre on Broadway, where it opens Thursday. The play, "Golden Child," was originally produced in 1996 at the Joseph Papp Public Theatre, where critics

deemed it wanting. It has now been rewritten and will be the first work by Hwang to open on Broadway since "M. Butwas the first play by an Asian-American to be nominated for a Tony Award, which it won.

"As he has achieved, the East West Players has popped its col-lective buttons at his achieve-ments," Takei said. This was no impromptu encomium. It was a cer-The company, East West Players, perhaps the United States' preplaywright's parents, Henry and Dorothy Hwang, who contributed \$150,000 to the construction of the theater, enough to earn them nam-

house in the Little Tokyo neighborhood of the circle for 31 years.

But on this night in mid-March it had just held the first preview perarily effusive man, and his wife declined to speak that night indeed declined to speak that night; indeed, there was a charmingly awkward moment onstage as the parents sought the shadow of their son, who seemed a bit nonplused himself.
"I should be called the East West

Players playwright, rather than the theater being called the David Henry Hwang Theatre," the 40-year-old Hwang told the audience.

Whether or not the gesture by his parents was "a little over the top." in the playwright's words, their contribution to his art is unmistakable. With a couple of exceptions, "M. Butterfly" being one, Hwang was 8 when his mother introduced him to the theater. Hwang's subject has been the experience of Asian - or, more specifically, Chinese — immigrants in America and how they forge the traditions of the old country with the cultural exigencies of the new. (His father said earlier with a laugh: "When I first saw 'Family Devotions,' I was very offended.' Since then, four of Hwang's But then, he is the first to admit he is not much of a critic.)

isn't terribly representative.
"I do ponder this issue," he said Hwang has based much of his work, which is often comic, on his in an interview at his parents' new home in suburban San Marino. own family, whose affluence provides an unusual vantage point for viewing the immigrant expe-How much do I want to be an Asian-American playwright? How rience, and whose Christian back- much do I want to be an American ground provides an unusual vantage playwright? In my life, I think I that he didn't give himself enough are now."

representative Asian-American playwright and has eccasionally

she was unhappy that people would point for viewing the Chinese tradition. As someone who has often tinction between what is Christian addict," said her daughter. dition. As someone who has often tinction between what is Christian had to bear the burden of being the and Western in my background and

been criticized as an inauthentic Asian voice, Hwang — who grew up in the San Fernando Valley, went lives in New York City with his to private high school and Stanford wife, Kathryn Layng, an actress, and their 2-year-old son, Noah. previews, he said no, that he knew

time to do it. Whatever the fate of "Golden Child," he added, it has been rewritten to his satisfaction.

"Golden Child" is a family his-tory play that takes place largely in China at the turn of the century. It forld Bank forlakarta has a framing device: a contemporary American-Chinese couple living in Manhattan have been discussing having a child, and this causes the husband to conjure the memory of his mother and her stories of her life. But the bulk of the play concerns his mother's child-hood in China, where her father, a wealthy businessman fascinated by Western philosophy, had three

Her mother was the eldest, or First Wife, as she is called, a woman who grows increasingly desperate and increasingly fond of opium as her husband's attention

passes to his younger wives.

The play is based on stories told to Hwang by his maternal grand-mother about her childhood in China, when Hwang was 10 and went to visit her in the Philippines. where her father had moved their family. Drawing on the stories, .Hwang, in a precocious bit of literary might, wrote a 90-page "nov-el," which he returned to, years

later, for the play.

His grandmother is now 92 and living with relatives. She chose not to be interviewed, though she has seen "Golden Child" and apparently liked it. "The only thing was, Dorothy Hwang.

what is Chinese."

Slightly built and fashionably bedraggled, he is talkative and modest, with an easy candor. He lives in New York City with him. important to know what my family history was, and that I went to see her that summer and we did these Asked whether he was nervous oral histories. In retrospect I think it about going back to Broadway with has to do with needing to under-"Golden Child," after his last stand myself in the context of being play, "Face Value," closed during a Chinese-American growing up in Southern California, when there "Face Value" needed work and were a lot fewer Asians than there

## Betsey Whitney's Art Gifts

By Carol Vogel

NEW YORK — Betsey Cushing greatest Toulouse-Lautrec in the United Roosevelt Whitney, the New York so-States. cialite and philanthropist who amassed one of the United States's great private art collections, bequeathed 15 major works by Picasso, van Gogh, Matisse. Toulouse-Lautrec and other masters to the National Gallery of Art in Washington and the Museum of Modern Art in New York. The gifts are estimated to be worth about \$300 million.

omen known in ine 1930s and 1940s for their marriages into some of America's most prominent families.

Among the works that Whitney left the

celle Lender Dancing the Bolero in Chilper-ic." painted in 1895 and 1896. The work is considered by many art historians to be the

The gallery also received a brightly colored Vlaminck, "Tugboat on the Seine, Chatou," from 1906; Braque's "The Harbor of La Ciotat," from 1907, and Matisse's "Open Window, Collioure," from 1905.

The Museum of Modern Art, where Whit-

ney was an honorary trustee for many years, received seven major paintings, including a Whitney, who died March 25 at the age of 1901 Picasso self-portrait, which was one of 89, was the widow of John Hay (Jock) Whit- the first likenesses of himself; a study for one ney, the first wife of James Roosevelt and the of Matisse's most famous images, "Luxe, last of the three celebrated Cushing sisters of Calme et Volupte," which the artist painted in the summer of 1904; a Cezanne landso "Turning Road at Montgeroult," and van Gogh's "The Olive Tree."

Over their 46-year marriage, the Whitneys National Gallery, where her husband was a amassed one of the world's greatest private trustee from 1961 to 1979, are van Gogh's collections of modern masters. It is rivaled 'Self Portrait, Saint-Remy, September only by those of Stavarous Niarchos, the 1889," one of the artist's most charismatic Greek shipping magnate, and Walter Annen-



self-portraits, and Toulouse-Lautrec's "Mar- berg, the former U.S. ambassador to Britain. A detail of Toulouse-Lautrec's Bolero dance.

## **PEOPLE**

I Crawford isn't finished yet with her "Mommie Dearest." Twenty years after publishing the tell-all book about being abused by her adoptive mother. Christina Crawford is hitting the road to promote a 400-page revision. "I put in eyewitness accounts that had come to me after the book was published," she said. "It's now a complete chronicle of a very turbulent and chaotic and compelling, and in some instances, loving relationship that covers

No wedding date has been set, they said almost 40 years." She begins a series of Miner co-stars in "The Diary of Anne Frank" speaking engagements Wednesday in Los on Broadway. Angeles. "April Fool's with Christina Craw-ford" will also tour Seattle, New York and Chicago. The new book, which she published by herself, is available through the Internet. Joan Crawford died in 1977.

Heavenly Hiraani Tiger Lily, the 20month-old child of Paula Yates and the late rock star Michael Hutchence, was christened Tuesday at a tightly guarded church in Sydney, where a photographer was hurt. The photographer, Brendan Esposito, was guests arriving at the church, colleagues said. vision magazine, are voted on by the public.

THE daughter of the late actress Joan Hutchence, frontman for INXS, was found hanged last November in a Sydney hotel.

Macaulay Culkin, the star of the "Home Alone" movies, is marrying the actress Rachel Miner. Both are 17. "We're so happy and proud that we found each other at such a young age," they said in a statement. "We look forward to spending our lives together. No wedding date has been set, they said

Rikard Nilsson of the Operakallaren res-

Moun King (1)

taurant in Stockholm has been named Europe's best young chef in the fifth European gastronomy competition held in Bor-

Bruno Masure, who was dismissed last fall from his position on the France 2 nightly news program, has won the 7 d'Or award for best television anchorman. The Golden 7 pushed off a wall as he tried to photograph awards, presented by the Tele 7 Jours tele-





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